Hafa Adai!

Happy Labor Day!

75¢

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

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Temporary restrictions lifted

The temporary restrictions that were put in place in the CNMI starting Aug. 24, 2020, expired yesterday, Sept. 6, 2020, and are now lifted.

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

- Community vulnerability level: **BLUE**
- **CURFEW**: 2am to 4am
- **GATHERINGS**: Gatherings of no more than 25 people in a single room or single space.
- **CHURCHES**: Church services must limit attendance to 75% of allowed occupancy.

- **BUSINESSES**
  - ❏ Groceries may be open from 5am to 1am.
  - ❏ All businesses shall limit occupancy to 75%.
  - ❏ Restaurants and bars must continue to serve dine-in customers under social distancing parameters and at 75% of their originally permitted occupancy.
  - ❏ Gas stations are permitted to open to the public between 5am and 1am.
  - ❏ Gaming businesses, including the casino, video poker establishments, and e-gaming facilities, shall remain closed unless authorized.

- **OUTDOOR RECREATION AND GATHERINGS**
  - ❏ All public parks, public pathways, and public beaches are open for recreational activities and social gatherings, subject to social distancing (no more than 25 people) and curfew.
  - ❏ The Grotto remains closed.
  - ❏ Mañagaha Island is open for recreation and gatherings.

- **SCHOOLS**
  - ❏ Public and private schools are allowed to resume in-person instruction and activities.
  - ❏ Schools, both public and private, are encouraged to implement distance learning through online means or a hybrid of both in-person and online learning.

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres announced in a statement on Sunday that the limits on in-person interactions, social gatherings, and business hours, and the stricter curfew hours, are now lifted and the CNMI goes back to the restrictions that were in place before Aug. 24, 2020.

This means curfew hours are now back to 2am to 4am.

The CNMI remains on

See LIFTED on Page 4

COMMUNITY VULNERABILITY

LEGEND:
- **Red:** Least safe
- **Orange**
- **Yellow**
- **Blue**
- **Green:** Safest

Source: Office of the Governor

One more traveler tests positive

By JUSTINE NAUTA
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REPORTER

Another traveler has tested positive for COVID-19 upon arriving in the CNMI, raising the Commonwealth's total to 58 confirmed cases.

According to a Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. statement, the individual was identified by travel screening and was confirmed positive upon arrival. The individual has been moved to quaran-

See TRAVELER on Page 4

AT A GLANCE

As of 6pm, Sept. 6, 2020

GUAM	OLD	NEW	TOTAL
Positive	1,494	125	1,619
Recovered	652	92	744
Active	736	125	861
Deaths	13	3	16
Cumulative Number of Persons Tested			40,268

SAIPAN	OLD	NEW	TOTAL
Positive	57	1	58
Deaths	2	0	2
Cumulative Number of Persons Tested			12,920*

*Total count includes the number of persons tested on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota. With guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, CHCC has opted to not report active and recovered cases.

Source: Joint Information Center – Guam, Commonwealth Health Care Corp.

IN LAST FOUR MONTHS

46% rise in food stamp participation

FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

The CNMI's participation rate in the food stamp program, called the Nutrition Assistance Program, rose to 5,169 households in June this year, compared to 3,540 households in March. This means an increase of approx-

See 46% on Page 4

READY FOR CLASSES

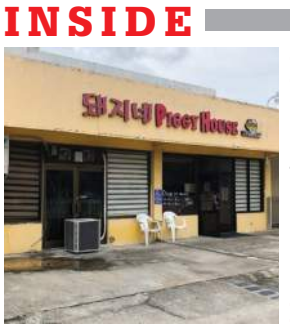
John Darag, Marianas High School's English Language Arts teacher (inset), gets his classroom ready following the precautionary measures set by the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force and the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp., which includes desks being 6 feet apart, arrows pointing where the walkway is, and 6 feet markers for students, for when face-to-face classes resume. A hand sanitizer station sits right beside the entrance of MHS classrooms.

JUSTINE NAUTA

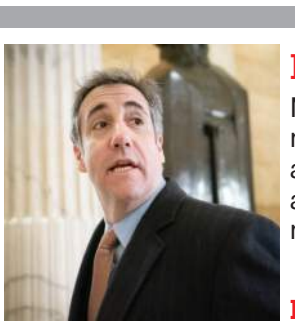
Torres assures power supply to CHCC won't be reduced. PAGE 2

Benavente: DOL hands out $71M worth of PUA, FPUC checks. PAGE 3

INSIDE



BUSINESS
Piggy House along Middle Road is here for hungry customers looking for great Korean food.
PAGE 11



NATION
Michael Cohen's memoir offers an account of Trump's alleged role in a hush money scandal.
PAGE 12

LIFE & STYLE
Some made their way back to the movies this weekend since the pandemic shuttered theaters.
PAGE 15

GOT A NEWS TIP? TEL: 235-6397 / 235-2440 FAX: 235-3740 EMAIL: editor@saipantribune.com

SCAN ME WITH A COMPATIBLE QR READER TO KEEP UPDATED ON ALL THE LATEST NEWS.

Our Income Guidelines Have Changed

The Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation (CHCC) CNMI WIC Program (WIC) has new income eligibility guidelines. WIC has continued its efforts to ensure food access, breastfeeding support and reassurance for young families during the pandemic. WIC is available to the CNMI's pregnant, breastfeeding, and postpartum women, infants and children under the age of five who are at nutritional risk and who are at or below 185 percent of the federal poverty guidelines below. A pregnant woman is considered two family members.

WIC Income Eligibility Table By Family Size Effective June 22, 2020

Family Members in Household	Yearly Household Income	Monthly Household Income	Twice-Monthly Household Income	Bi-Weekly Household Income	Weekly Household Income
1	$23,606	$1,968	$984	$908	$454
2	31,894	2,658	1,329	1,227	614
3	40,182	3,349	1,675	1,546	773
4	48,470	4,040	2,020	1,865	933
5	56,758	4,730	2,365	2,183	1,092
6	65,046	5,421	2,711	2,502	1,251
7	73,334	6,112	3,056	2,821	1,411
8	81,622	6,802	3,401	3,140	1,570
Each Add'l Member Add	+$8,288	+$691	+$346	+$319	+$160

Note: All WIC Income Eligibility Guidelines are based on GROSS Income, meaning before taxes or other deductions

An individual or certain family members who participate in other benefits programs, such as the Nutrition Assistance Program (NAP) or Medicaid automatically meet the income requirement.

Become a WIC Client

Call us at (670) 664-4084 to see if you qualify. In this new normal we continue to do remote services, so it is important to have a working number we can reach you at.

Essential Documents for everyone who will be enrolling into the WIC Program

- Identification for adults (Driver's License, Photo ID)
- Child's Identification (Shot Record, Birth Certificate, Crib Card)
- Proof of Income (30 days of recent paystubs, Medicaid card, NAP card)
- Proof of Address (Mail from CUC or NAP card)

For general inquiries about the WIC Program or eligibility, please call us at (670) 664-4084.

Stay informed and up to date with what is going on at WIC by visiting CNMI WIC's Facebook page at www.facebook.com/cnmichcc, www.facebook.com/cnmi.wicprogram, or Instagram @cnmi.wic.

WIC is an equal opportunity provider. The program is funded by the United Stated Department of Agriculture (CFDA #10.557, federal award #7NM700NM5).

Today we celebrate the pride and spirit of the great men and women who worked hard to improve the lives of not just their families but this country.

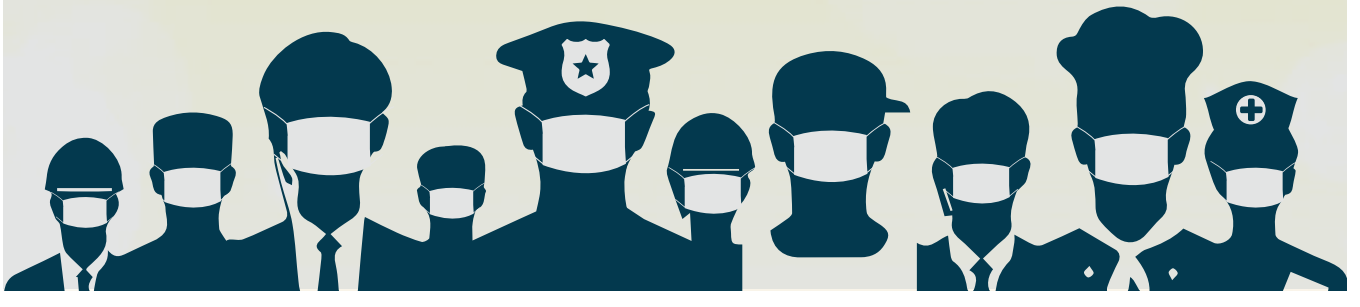
Have a blessed and safe

LABOR DAY

Hafa Adai! from the staff and management of

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER



Local

Torres assures power supply to CHCC won't be reduced

FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Gov. Ralph DLG. Torres assured Friday that the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. will not reduce the power supply to the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. due to unpaid billings.

Speaking at his regular radio news briefing, Torres said the administration and CHCC sat down with CUC recently and they came to an agreement on making some payments under some terms and conditions.

"There will not be any shortfall of utility provided to the hospital," said Torres.

Not everything has been resolved, though. Torres said there are other pending issues like arrears that need to be addressed.

The governor said there will future discussions among the parties with respect to CHCC's options on how to pay what it owes CUC.

Last Aug. 20, the CUC board voted to turn off CHCC's power for six hours a day starting tomorrow, Tuesday, because of its unpaid bills. CUC claimed that CHCC owes $35.7 million in utility bills. CUC demanded a $5 million payment by last Aug. 6 or else it would cut power to CHCC for six hours a day.

The administration then met with CHCC officials and committed $2.5 million in initial payment to CUC. This prevented the reduction of power hours last Aug. 6.

'COVID-19 still brings uncertainties'

FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Noting that some hospital employers in Guam, including physicians and nurses, have tested positive for COVID-19 in the last few weeks, Gov. Ralph DLG Torres said these incidents underscore the importance of protecting medical workers and other first responders in the CNMI.

Speaking at his regular radio press briefing Friday, Torres also pointed out that news in the U.S. mainland states that 20% of medical professions throughout the United States are infected with COVID-19.

When nurses and physicians are infected, the healthcare system is sorely affected, he said. "So we need to protect them," Torres added.

Last Thursday, the *Guam Daily Post* reported that 32 staff members at the Guam Memorial Hospital, including nurses and physicians, have tested positive for COVID-91 in the last few weeks.

Torres said they worked hard with COVID-19 Task Force chair Warren Villagomez in purchasing Personal Protective Equipment to make sure that they safeguard the same professionals—doctors and nurses—that are protecting the community. "And I can't thank them enough," he said.

Providing physicians and nurses the proper gear and equipment and enough supplies is one of the reasons why people in the CNMI also live in a very safe place.

"And so today, I want to echo that I want to again remind everyone that we continue to fight this pandemic together and not against each other," the governor said.

Torres said a lot of things are moving in the CNMI such as transferring by next week the Alternate Care Site from Kanoa Resort to the Commonwealth Health Center for COVID-related health issues.

Torres said when the CNMI started fighting this pandemic, there were so many uncertainties and that, even today, there are still new things and new cases. In last week's case of a sailor who tested positive for COVID-19 on Tinian, apparently the entire Seabees team had been quarantined for 14 days and that the Department of Defense followed all necessary protocols before shipping them to Tinian. "Yet when they got to Tinian, one still tested positive," Torres said.

Also, before the latest two positive cases—Nos. 50 and 54—the government had basically opened up just about every business with some restrictions. When the two cases came in, Torres said they reimplemented the restrictions to ask the community to give them two more weeks to look into their contact tracing so that the community will be safe.

He said he is thankful to the community for always supporting the administration, supporting the task force, supporting CHCC chief executive officer Esther Muña, and Dr. John Tudela of the medical team since Day 1.

"Thank you, our first responders. You guys are the pride and joy of the Marianas," said Torres, adding that these responders are the reason why people are safe.

He urged people to thank every doctor, nurse, and first responder when they meet out there. The governor said there are so many people that have worked tirelessly around the clock to provide the same safety. "For every citizen in the Marianas, it doesn't matter what's your race, social status, political affiliation, or your position. Our health care is meant for everyone to protect every individual that calls the Marianas home," Torres said.

He added that they're also trying hard to protect tourists when the CNMI opens up its borders.

Form I-9 verification during EAD delays

Due to the extraordinary and unprecedented COVID-19 public health emergency, the production of certain Employment Authorization Documents (Form I-766, EAD) is delayed. As a result, employees may use Form I-797, Notice of Action, with a Notice date on or after Dec. 1, 2019, through and including Aug. 20, 2020, informing an applicant of approval of an Application for Employment Authorization (Form I-765) as a Form

See FORM I-9 on Page 4

Benavente: DOL hands out $71M worth of PUA, FPUC checks

By JUSTINE NAUTA
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REPORTER

The Department of Labor has so far already distributed $71,244,451.79 in Pandemic Unemployment Assistance and Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation to those who are eligible in the CNMI, according to Labor Secretary Vicky Benavente

Out of 11,844 people who have applied for PUA/FPUC assistance, a total of 9,016 applicants who have had no errors on their applications for weekly benefits have already gotten their checks, she said.

DOL received a total of 9,800 online applications and 2,044 paper applications, for a total of 11,844 applications.

With many still complaining about not getting any PUA/FPUC assistance several months after being furloughed, many people are collectively asking "what is taking DOL so long?" to issue the checks. Benavente blamed an initial lack of manpower at the department. According to a source within DOL, there were only 13 of them in the beginning, and now there are 70 staff, with 45 working on PUA applications.

Benavente said that only six adjudicators are in charge of approving applications. They go through all the applications that the reviewers have carefully evaluated and have confirmed that all the information is correct, that a status of an individual has been verified whether they are U.S. citizen or non-U.S. citizen, etc.

Benavente

Benavente says that there are still many applicants who have incorrect information on the applications, so they are contacting them and correcting the information such as bank accounts, routing numbers, addresses, etc. Benavente encourage those who have called DOL to keep calling and keep trying, because DOL staff are also trying to respond and assist by telephone or in person at the PUA headquarters.

Benavente added that they will continue to disburse the money to the applicants as soon as they can confirm their information on the application is correct and all the issues have been resolved, such as missing documents, paycheck stubs, letters of certification from employers, etc.

She stressed that it's a "two-way street" and that she can't help people unless they help her and the DOL staff figure out what's the issues with their application.

DOL went on the offensive after Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-Saipan) compared the CNMI situation to that of Guam in a Facebook post and slammed the CNMI DOL for the "slow pace" of issuing the unemployment checks. DOL pointed out in a statement that comparing the CNMI to Guam is incorrect because the CNMI received the federal funds on June 10, two weeks after Guam's DOL did.

"It is appalling to see our delegate to the U.S. Congress compare PUA claims [in] Guam to here in the CNMI, as Guam received their PUA funding and guidance first, while the CNMI had to wait for additional guidance before starting its program," said the DOL statement.

DOL stated that they have been working tirelessly to implement the PUA/FPUC program, while Sablan "has not done his duty to work with his colleagues in Congress to ensure eligibility for CNMI-Only Transitional Workers" and "has provided false hope and chooses to point fingers at hardworking government employees within CNMI DOL.'" DOL added that Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and Benavente both advocated for the CW workers' eligibility for PUA.

"CNMI DOL understands the importance and need for getting assistance to our workers. We recognize our role and the work that it is mandated to do. The CNMI Department of Labor remains committed to serving this community," said DOL.

Cool Laundry II shutdown is lifted

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

The Governor's COVID-19 Task Force lifted Friday its order that shutdown Cool Laundry II in Kagman for alleged violation of anti-COVID-19 directives.

Jung

In lifting the shutdown order, the task force has found the proposed mitigation measures submitted by Soi-In Corp. president Jung Ja Kim, which owns Cool Laundry II, to be acceptable and in compliance with directives.

Kim told *Saipan Tribune* over the weekend that they already re-opened Cool Laundry II but they also treated the facility with a disinfectant before that. She did wonder why the task force allowed only four persons at a time inside the laundromat when Cool Laundry II has enough room for social distancing, having an area of 3,600 feet. "I have the biggest area of all laundromat (sic) in the CNMI," said Kim. She appealed to the task force to reconsider its decision with respect to number of customers allowed inside. She said that allowing only four customers at a time is hard for a struggling business.

Cool Laundry I in Fina Sisu, which is also owned by Soi-In Corp., was also disinfected, although it was not subject to the shutdown order.

Kim assured Alcohol Beverage Tobacco Control Division director David Maratita that they continue monitoring and sanitizing the two facilities.

ABTC, a sub-task force of COVID-19 Task Force, shut down the Cool Laundry II last Aug. 31, allegedly due to a lack of consistent monitoring, that it was left unattended, nobody was there to maintain crowd control and they were not regularly sanitizing the premises.

Kim said she explained that they have been conducting consistent monitoring and sanitizing Cool Laundry II as well as Cool Laundry I at least on an hourly basis, if not more.

The CNMI COVID-19 Task Force shut down Cool Laundry II and Cheers Karaoke in Garapan for alleged violation of the emergency directives and temporarily closed Saipan Vegas in Chalan Laulau and Club 88 in Garapan for alleged failure to rectify reopening plan issues.

At a recent KKMP radio news briefing, Maratita said they inspected over the week 245 establishments and out of those, 154 were found to be in compliance with the directives, or for a 63% compliance, and 85 establishments were non-compliant.

He said those 35% that were non-compliant were subsequently advised, educated, and warned to fix the varying infractions.

Detecting a leak: There are THREE ways to detect a gas leak (smell is the most common):

SMELL — To help you SMELL a gas leak, a familiar odor like rotten eggs is added to both natural gas and propane.
SEE — Near a leaking gas pipeline, you might SEE blowing dirt, bubbling water or an unusual area of dead vegetation.
HEAR — A leaking pipeline, appliance, storage tank or cylinder (propane only) might make a hissing sound you can HEAR.

If you ever suspect a gas leak, leave the area immediately. (Do not touch or use anything electric on your way out—not even a light switch or telephone.)
Then, call your local gas provider or 9-1-1.

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We would like to extend our sincere appreciation to the countless essential workers in the CNMI who have kept our economy moving throughout the course of this pandemic.

HAPPY Labor Day

WE SALUTE YOU!

STORE HOURS: MIDDLE ROAD STORE - 6:00AM TO 9:00PM DAILY • GARAPAN BEACH ROAD - 6:00AM TO 8:30PM DAILY
Chalan Pale Arnold Road 235-8577 • Garapan Express 233-8577 • Office Tel: 235-8761 • Fax: 235-8760 • E-mail: admin@jcamcd.com

LIFTED

From Page 1

Community Vulnerability Level Blue, which is a step away from the safest level, which is Green. There are three higher risk levels, with Red as the least safe.

Since January, the Torres-Palacios administration through the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force and the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. has implemented strict, but necessary constraints on activities throughout the Commonwealth in an effort to prevent and control the spread of coronavirus throughout the community.

Due in large part to the proactive implementation of these risk mitigation measures, the continued success of the CNMI's COVID-19 preventative measures at the borders, as well as the cooperation of the community in adhering to guidance from CNMI health officials, the CNMI has been able to contain community transmission.

These last two weeks of temporary restrictions have been used to determine how widespread community transmission is within the CNMI and to prevent further spread of the virus. So far, the CNMI has had only 58 positive COVID-19 cases.

The entire community is to be commended for washing their hands, wearing a mask, and watching their distance in public. However, it remains important to be vigilant and to not have our guard down, which requires all CNMI residents to work together.

"I want to thank all of our federal and local partners, our businesses, and everyone who calls the Marianas home for being with us in our efforts to keep our community safe from COVID-19. It has not been easy this year, but we can be proud knowing that the CNMI is one of the safest places in the world. Let's continue to be vigilant and work together," said Torres.

Exceptions to curfew hours remain for first responders while in performance of their official duties and displaying a COVID-19 Task Force-issued badge; any person employed during the curfew hours or is in direct route of going to or returning from their place of employment; and any person going to or returning from admission to the hospital or completion of treatment such as hemodialysis.

First-time curfew violators, including individuals found driving on a public road during curfew hours, will be subject to a fine of $200; second-time curfew violators will be subject to a fine of $500; third-time or more curfew violators will be subject to a fine of $750 and/or the impound of his/her vehicle by the Department of Public Safety. Each passenger in a vehicle found driving on a public road outside of the curfew hours will also be fined: $100 for a first-time offense; $200 for a second-time offense; $300 for a third-time or more offense.

Gatherings of no more than 25 people in a single room or single space are permitted.

Church services must limit attendance to 75% of allowed occupancy and maintain social distancing and sanitation guidelines.

All businesses that have facilities open to the public may be open to the public from 5am to 1am.

All businesses shall limit occupancy to 75% in accordance with supplemental regulatory guidance set by the Department of Public Works Building Code.

Restaurants and bars must continue to serve dine-in customers under social distancing parameters and at 75% of their originally permitted occupancy. In addition, restaurants and bars must conduct temperature screening of all employees and patrons prior to entering the establishment. For patrons, establishments must document patrons' name, phone number in a log which must be accessible to CNMI officials.

Employees are required to wear facial coverings when providing service to the patrons and are included in the 75% occupancy limit. Patrons are also required to wear face masks whether dining inside or outside.

Gas stations are allowed to open to the public between 5am and 1am.

All businesses engaged in gaming, including the casino, video poker establishments, and e-gaming facilities, remain closed to the public, except if authorized to operate.

Business enforcement

The Governor's COVID-19 Task Force, in coordination with and with the assistance of the Department of Public Safety, the Department of Commerce, Alcohol Beverage & Tobacco Control Division, the Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services, and any other necessary Commonwealth agency, shall enforce business hours and social distancing requirements. Failure to follow will subject the violator to penalties. First-time offense violators will be closed for a month; second-time offense violators will be subject closed for up to six months; third-time or more offense violators will be closed for up to a year.

Outdoor recreation and gatherings

All public parks, public pathways, and public beaches are open for all recreational activities and social gatherings, subject to the social distancing requirements regarding gatherings (no more than 25 people) and curfew mandate mentioned above.

The Grotto remains closed.

Mañagaha Island is open for recreation and gatherings, so long as social distancing requirements are implemented for both transport vessels and on-island activities. Transport vessels must be subject to constant and consistent disinfection. This section will be enforced by the Department of Public Lands.

Schools

All public and private schools in the Commonwealth are permitted to resume in-person instruction and activities, subject to the review and approval of operational plans and site assessments by the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force, DPW, and CHCC.

All schools, both public and private, across the Commonwealth, are encouraged to facilitate alternative modes of education, such as distance learning through online means or a hybrid of both in-person and online learning.

The Governor's COVID-19 Task Force and CHCC continue to urge individuals to practice the Three W's: Wash your hands. Watch your distance. Wear a face covering.

Individuals and businesses are encouraged to seek guidance regarding these protective measures. Report any non-compliance of these directives to the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force at 237-8034, 8035, 8036, and 8037. ***(PR)***

TRAVELER

From Page 1

tine at Kanoa Resort in Susupe for monitoring.

CHCC has already done contact tracing for people who have come in contact with the 58th case, such as passengers on the same flight, close family members, and friends.

According to Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, the Alternate Care Site that has been built at Kanoa Resort, will be officially turned over to CHCC this Wednesday, Sept. 9. Warren Villagomez, who heads the COVID-19 Task Force, said that the CNMI will continue to be involved with the ACS, which includs facility management, making sure that all necessary infrastructure is in place, as well as backup systems, among others, in order to meet the minimum requirements of a health care facility.

Esther Muña, CHCC chief executive officer, said the ACS is key to the CNMI's response effort, considering that the CNMI was projected to have 6,000 COVID-19 cases. "We needed to have something to prepare ourselves, you know. It's always about preparedness, and prevention," she said.

Seeing that Guam's hospitals are filling up and beds are being fully occupied, Muña said that the CNMI cannot be put in that situation where the hospital will be looking for beds. With the ACS being handed over to CHCC, the hospital can ensure that, should the CNMI also see a rise in the number of COVID-19 cases, the facility is ready to be used.

Muna stated that the facility is about maintaining the "standards of care" and being sure that is meets the requirements of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, which is another reason why it needed to be transferred to CHCC.

Torres said that having the ACS is beneficial for the island because it is mainly for patients who need COVID-19 care, and the hospital will focus more on providing health care to those who don't have COVID-19.

"I want to remind our community that, regardless of how up-to-date, how state-of-the-art the facility we have…we hope and we pray we never get to use the facility, but if we do, it's ready for all of us," said Torres.

COVID-19 in Guam

The Joint Information Center in Guam reported two more deaths on the island, raising the number of COVID-19-related deaths in the U.S. territory to 16.

The 15th death was a 55-year-old male who had multiple chronic diseases that were accelerated by COVID-19. JIC stated that the male was admitted to the Guam Memorial Hospital last Aug. 29 and was pronounced dead last Sept. 4 at approximately 9:15pm.

The 16th death was a 49-year-old female, who also had multiple chronic diseases that were also worsened by COVID-19. She was admitted to GMH last Aug. 27 and was pronounced dead last Sept. 6 at approximately 2:50am.

"In less than a week, we mourned the passing of five individuals to COVID-19. It is with deep sadness that we must announce the passing of a 16th person to this virus. First gentleman Jeff [Cook], Lt. Gov. Josh [Tenorio], and I send our deepest condolences and sympathies to her family," said Guam Gov. Lou Leon Guerrero. "To the people of Guam, we each play a role in fighting this deadly virus. Stay home, wear your masks, and social distance. Let's protect ourselves and our loved ones and together, we can save lives."

46%

From Page 1

imately 46% as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, said Gov. Ralph DLG Torres.

In a letter to Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) dated Aug. 26, Torres said the NAP is faced with an unprecedented increase in participation from households whose incomes were abruptly impeded. "Essentially, there has been a significant increase in the number of households who lack the means of adequate income today and are heavily reliant on NAP benefits," the governor said.

Torres acknowledged Sablan's continued efforts to secure additional funding for the CNMI, especially during critical situations such as disasters and the current effects of COVID-19.

Torres said that NAP has $23,237,413 that would be available for expenditure in fiscal year 2021. Of that amount, the governor said, the CNMI has proposed $18,019,089 for Program Benefits and $5,218,314 for administrative costs, that includes $1,688,022 reserved for the Electronic Benefits Transfer system.

Torres said in consideration of the current situation, it is prudent to utilize these periods of participation as the basis for determining estimates for the upcoming fiscal year.

Using the April to June 2020 data, approximately $7,386,725 in program benefits were issued; an average of $2,462,242 of benefits per month for 4,645 average households.

The governor said when projecting out the numbers for 12 months, the estimate would be $29,546,900 necessary for the year. He said the amount that has been proposed for program benefits is $18,019,089. As a result, Torres said, the amount determined as the shortfall would be $11,527,811.

"This amount of funding would be necessary in order to maintain the approved income eligibility standards and maximum benefit allotments that are currently in place," he said.

In contrast, he said, the CNMI NAP has submitted its proposal to implement the program within the anticipated funding limit for fiscal year 2021 of $23,237,413.

However, the governor said, the current proposal is to reduce the income standards and maximum benefit allotments by 25% beginning Oct. 1, 2020, through March 31, 2021, and eventual reduction of such levels to the pre-ENAP levels from April 1, 2021, to Sept. 30, 2021.

Torres said he is hopeful that this necessary reduction in NAP benefits and income-eligibility can be averted with congressional appropriation of additional funding.

"I am further hopeful that you will share this concern with me to ensure that families have adequate food on their tables," Torres told the delegate.

FORM I-9

From Page 2

I-9, Employment Eligibility Verification, List C #7 document that establishes employment authorization issued by the Department of Homeland Security pursuant to 8 C.F.R. 274a.2(b)(1)(v)(C)(7), even though the Notice states it is not evidence of employment authorization. Employees may present their Form I-797 Notice of Action showing approval of their I-765 application as a list C document for Form I-9 compliance until December 1, 2020.

The I-797 Notice of Action described above does not prove evidence of identity or serve as a list a document establishing both identity and employment authorization or a List B document establishing identity for form I-9 purposes.

For Form I-9 completion, employees who present a Form I-797 Notice of Action described above for new employment must also present their employer with an acceptable List B document that establishes identity. The Lists of Acceptable Documents is on Form I-9. Current employees who require reverification can present this Form I-797 Notice of Action as proof of employment authorization under List C.

By Dec. 1, 2020, employers must reverify employees who presented this Form I-797 Notice of Action as a List C document. These employees will need to present their employers with new evidence of employment authorization from either List A or List C.

We encourage employers to accept new EADs presented by employees as soon as they receive them from USCIS prior to Dec. 1, 2020, to satisfy the reverification requirement. However, it is the employees' choice whether to present their new EADs, or a different document from either List A or List C. ***(USCIS)***

Adequate showers finally return to the CNMI

Due to recent heavier rainfall amounts, the drought conditions across the CNMI have improved.

According to the latest drought statement from the CNMI Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency, expect near or just below-adequate rainfall the next couple weeks. A relatively drier weather pattern is in place the next two weeks, but weak disturbances should provide enough rain. This prompted the agency to say this will be the last drought statement for the CNMI.

The advisory states that a weak to moderate monsoon trough meandered the past couple of weeks for western Micronesia. Although the monsoon trough stretched eastward at times, trade flow and embedded circulations were the fixture for eastern Micronesia. Chuuk and the Marianas were between these features during the past few weeks. Circulations were plentiful but most remained largely disorganized, with the exception of a couple that became better organized over the Philippine Sea. These disorganized circulations produced spotty heavy showers across the northern Marshalls, with Wotje in particular receiving 242% of normal August rainfall.

The Marianas experienced an impressive rainfall event during the afternoon of Aug. 27 when the monsoon trough lifted through the area. In Guam, rainfall totals for the three-day period exceeded 15 inches in some locations. Showery weather lingered through the morning of Aug. 29. The CNMI also received beneficial rains but totals were considerably lower. This three-day event brought August monthly rainfall much closer to normal for Guam and the CNMI. Kapingamarangi remained in a dry pattern as large-scale weather features sat farther north near Pohnpei and to the south across New Guinea and the Solomon Islands. ***(PR)***

Man sues DFEMS officer after vehicle collision

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
kimberly_bautista@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A man and his wife filed a complaint against the Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services after one of its employees crashed into their vehicle at a pedestrian stop.

Ricardo and Himaya Saturno, through their lawyer, Bruce Berline, are suing the CNMI and DFEMS employee Paul John Sasamoto following a vehicle collision on July 24, 2019.

Saturno is demanding special damages in an amount to be proven at trial, consequential damages in an amount to be proven in trial, damages for injury to personal property, cost of the suit, and other further relief that the court may award.

According to his lawsuit, Saturno was driving north on Beach Road with his wife in the passenger seat on or about July 24, 2019, at around 2:20pm, and that Sasamoto was following closely behind his vehicle in a government-owned white Nissan Frontier pickup truck.

Saturno then reportedly saw a pedestrian attempting to cross the road, so he came to a slow stop to allow the pedestrian to cross and he turned his hazard lights on. Sasamoto, who was traveling behind Saturno, then allegedly rammed into his vehicle.

Saturno claims that Sasamoto's manner of driving violated the CNMI's traffic safety laws and that both he and his wife suffered severe emotional pain and stress.

Furthermore, Saturno's wife allegedly also felt pain in her right upper back immediately after the collision. She allegedly also suffered painful contusions to her body and experienced general soreness, along with mental distress and anxiety. Their vehicle also suffered significant damage at the back.

MHS issues school IDs for Grab & Go

By JUSTINE NAUTA
justine_nauta@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Although the Public School System will go fully remote starting tomorrow, Marianas High School and other public schools still distributed student identification cards last Thursday that will ensure that students will still be fed under the PSS meal program.

According to MHS vice principal Melanie S. Rdiall, the student ID card is needed for the Grab & Go meal distribution, that students will still be assured breakfast and lunch meals even if PSS will be holding online classes starting this week.

MHS will not be distributing Grab & Go meals on their campus, so MHS students should go to Oleai Elementary School, Garapan Elementary School, or Dandan Middle School for their Grab & Go meals.

Rdiall stated that 1,509 students are registered at MHS for the upcoming school semester, 39 students less than last year. Despite a recent executive order that there should be no face-to-face classes starting Aug. 24, Rdiall said that they are still looking at starting face-to-face classes come Oct. 5. However, this is not a sure thing. Rdiall says that it all depends on Gov. Ralph DLG Torres if he amends his executive order.

There will still be a small group that will have face-to-face classes, Rdiall said, but this is only for selected students, mostly special-needs students, and only up to 10 students per classroom. However, if parents don't want these students to physically go to school, that is beyond the schools' control.

As of now, there isn't an exact number of how many students will participate in the face-to-face classes, but Rdiall says that the school is preparing a classroom for only 10 students. Additionally, for the month of September, teachers will be working with their first period students on their social emotional learning homework.

Rdiall stated that MHS has called a majority of their teachers/staff back to work; one has transferred to another high school and one counselor has relocated to the U.S. mainland.

LET US CELEBRATE
Labor Day
Your hard work and dedication helped build our islands to where we are today.
Your efforts are recognized and commended.
TRIPLE J CORPORATE OFFICE
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FIVE STAR WHOLESALE FOODS
TRIPLE J MOTORS
NEW CARS • USED CARS • PARTS • SERVICE

We are taking this chance to wish each and every worker a happy and a safe day off to celebrate their efforts.
Happy
Labor Day!
From the Management & Staff Of
Tan Holdings
Tan Siu Lin Foundation

ROBERT TENORIO TORRES
Attorney at Law
Plata Drive, Whispering Palms (Chalan Kiya)
P.O. Box 503758 CK
Saipan, MP 96950
Tel. (670) 234-7859
Fax. (670) 234-5749
e-mail: robert.torres@rttlawgroup.com

Via Hand Delivery/Posting/Publication

September 2, 2020

Hong Da Development Corporation
Attn: Sunny K. M. Chan
Caller Box AAA 39
Saipan, MP 96950

Re: Notice of Default and Breach and Demand to Cure

Dear Mr. Chan,

My office represents Ms. Bernadita Cabrera Palacios. Ms. Palacios is the Lessor and leaseholder of the following real property (hereinafter, the "Leased Premises"):

Lot No. 1849-1-6-1 located in Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, containing a total area of 1,410 square meters, more or less, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 2059/84, the original of which was registered with the Commonwealth Recorder as Document No. 84-749 on the 14th day of May 1984.

This is to notify you that Hong Da Development Corporation ("Hong Da") is in default of its Ground Lease Agreement (hereinafter the "Lease") of the Leased Premises that Hong Da executed with Ms. Palacios on January 8, 1991 for the term of 55-years, beginning on January 9, 1991 and ending on January 8, 2045, the monthly rent payments to be paid pursuant to the payment scheduled in the Lease. The Lease was recorded with the Commonwealth Recorder's Office on January 8, 1991 as File No. 91-175. Hong Da has breached the Lease by failing to timely pay rent in full.

In summary, Hong Da has failed to make any payments on the Lease pursuant the Lease's payment schedule since its execution. As such, Hong Da is in default for unpaid rental due and owing in the amount of **$456,494.00**.

Below is a breakdown of the amount now due and owing from Hong Da to Ms. Palacios:

January 1995 thru December 1995 at $1,000.00 per month (60 mos.).....$60,000.00

January 1996 thru December 2000 at $1,100.00 per month (60 mos.).....$66,000.00

January 2001 thru December 2005 at $1,210.00 per month (60 mos.).....$72,600.00

January 2006 thru December 2010 at $1,331.00 per month (60 mos.).....$79,860.00

January 2011 thru December 2015 at $1,464.10 per month (60 mos.).....$87,846.00

January 2016 thru August 2020 at $1,610.50 per month (56 mos.).....$90,188.00

TOTAL.....$456,494.00

Pursuant to Section 15(b) of the Lease, demand is hereby made upon Hong Da Development Corporation to cure the default amount of $456,494.00 completely within thirty days of receipt of this demand. Moreover, it is believed that Hong Da is no longer operational and has since been dissolved by virtue of an Administrative Dissolution. As such, if Hong Da fails to cure the default within thirty days of receipt of this notice, Ms. Palacios will declare this Lease terminated for Hong Da's failure to cure the breach. Upon termination of the Lease, you will be deemed a holdover tenant and my client will recover the Leased Premises in the manner provided in 2 CMC § 40206. Upon such termination, my client has authorized me to bring suit against you without further notice, for breach of contract and holdover removal, abandonment, and will seek damages for past due rent, and attorney's fees and costs for enforcement of the Lease, as set forth in Section 23 of the Lease and in 2 CMC § 40209. A copy of the Lease is hereto attached for your reference. Further, under 2 CMC § 40205, you will be held liable for double the amount of rent due on the Leased Premises for any period during which you refuse to surrender possession after termination of your lease.

All payment shall be made to my client in the form of a cashier's check, cash, or money order and delivered to my office within the period to cure the default as set forth herein.

We appreciate your cooperation in this matter. Any communication should be directed to my office.

Sincerely,

/s/_____
Robert T. Torres
Attorney for the Bernadita Cabrera Palacios

NEWS BRIEFS

Court sentences man to 1 year for assault

Superior Court Associate Judge Kenneth L. Govendo sentenced last week a man to a year in prison, all suspended except for 28 days, after the defendant pleaded guilty to assault and battery. Barkin Mamo, 19, a Turkish national, will serve his sentence day for day at the Department of Corrections. Mamo was given nine days of credit for time served. In addition, he was ordered to pay $25 in court fees.

According to the factual basis of the plea agreement, Mamo attacked a a co-worker on Aug. 2, 2020, causing bodily harm.

Mamo was represented by assistant public defender Karie Comstock, while assistant attorney General Erin Toolan appeared for the government.

Mamo, a casino construction worker, is among the individuals who was repatriated to Turkey last Thursday, Sept. 3. ***(Kimberly Bautista)***

L&T Group of Companies, Ltd. is inviting qualified individuals to apply for the following position:

Job Title: Operations Manager

Job Duties: Supervise an entire department consisting of 20-25 employees. Inspect project sites to monitor progress and ensure conformance to design specifications and safety or sanitation standards. Estimate quantities and Cost of Materials, equipment or labor to determine project feasibility. Direct engineering activities ensuring compliance with environmental safety, or other governmental regulations. Make property operations, maintenance and repair progress reports as required by management.

Qualifications Requirements: High School Graduate. Minimum 3-5 years field and theoretical experience including proper understanding of all engineering drawings, designs, concepts, and applications. Practical and applied knowledge of engineering science and technology. Experience in Hotel, Property or Project Management is a plus. Honest, Motivated, Punctual, Reliable, Team-work oriented. Workplace & environmental safety practice, knowledge & practice.

Resumes may be submitted to the HR Department, 2nd Floor, JP Center Beach Road, Garapan during Office Hours: Monday through Friday ~ 8:30a.m. to 5:00p.m. or via email no later than September 10, 2020. For additional inquiries, please don't hesitate to contact the HR at Tel. No. (670) 235-0561 Ext. 131 or Email : Int_recruitment@tanholdings.com

L&T Group of Companies, Ltd. is an Equal Opportunity Employer.
Qualified women, minorities and disabled
persons are encouraged to apply.

Guam issues box jellyfish advisory

MANGILAO, Guam—The Department of Agriculture's Division of Aquatic and Wildlife Resources Fisheries would like to remind people to be on the lookout for box jellyfish (*Physalia physalis*). Box jellyfish can be found on the beach or in the water, especially on reef flats. Box jellyfish are anticipated from Sept. 10 to 12, 2020. Both box jellyfish and Indo-Pacific man-o-wars can sting even if washed on the beach and dead. If box jellyfish or Indo-Pacific man-o-wars are seen, notify DAWR Fisheries at (671) 735-0289/82/91/94 or email fisheries@doag.guam.gov. ***(PR)***

NAVFAC Marianas awards $8.6M contract to Guam business

ASAN, Guam—Naval Facilities Engineering Command Marianas awarded an $8.6 million firm-fixed-price task order under a multiple award construction contract to Modern International, Inc., a Guam-based small business, last Sept. 3, for energy savings and renewable energy work at U.S. Naval Base Guam.

"The award of this contract to Modern International, Inc., represents the Navy's intent to leverage the expertise and talents of our small business community on Guam," said NAVFAC Marianas executive officer Cmdr. Jacob Segalla. "It is always a tremendous achievement when our acquisition professionals and the team of small business firms are able to continue our partnerships."

The work to be performed includes the installation of energy-efficient lights, heating ventilation, air conditioning, and solar photovoltaic throughout housing units and a sentry house at Apra Palms in Santa Rita, Guam, with an expected completion date of August 2023. ***(USN)***

Navy trainings set

ASAN, Guam—The U.S. Navy will conduct live fire exercises in Warning Area 13 and Farallon de Medinilla on Sept. 7-8 from noon to 11:55pm.

Marine vessels are advised to remain clear of Farallon de Medinilla by 12 nautical miles for the duration of this event and to monitor the U.S. Coast Guard broadcast Notice to Mariners for advisories.

The U.S. Navy will conduct live fire exercises in open ocean on Sept. 7-11 from 1pm to 11:55pm at the following coordinates: 13˚26"N/145˚08"E, 13˚42"N/144˚36"E.

Marine vessels are advised to remain clear of the area for the duration of the event and to monitor the U.S. Coast Guard broadcast Notice to Mariners for advisories.

The U.S. Navy will also conduct training in the vicinity of Agat Bay and Outer Apra Harbor on Sept. 7-11, from 1pm to 11:55pm. Simulated ammunition will be used in this training. Residents in surrounding areas should not be alarmed if they see or hear increased activity and are advised to remain clear of units in the area.

The U.S. Navy will conduct training in Dandan-Malojloj and Radio Barrigada on Sept. 7-11 from 1pm to 11:55pm. Simulated ammunition will be used in this training. Residents in surrounding areas should not be alarmed if they hear or see increased activity.

These trainings support readiness and are critical to developing the skills needed to respond to operational missions throughout the region to ensure a stable, free, and open Indo-Pacific. ***(PR)***

3 arrested in Guam for fishing in MPA

MANGILAO, Guam—The Department of Agriculture Law Enforcement Section recently arrested three persons for allegedly illegally fishing in the Piti Bomb Holes, a Marine Preserve Area. Conservation officers seized a total of 81 assorted reef fish, one octopus, one lobster - impaled and undersized, two squid and miscellaneous fishing paraphernalia. The suspects are Tamiano Tony, 49, from Agana Heights; B-More Kupo, 30, from Dededo; and R-Heart Tok, 22, from Dededo. ***(PR)***

NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION

Community Development Block Grant-Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) Program

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

OPENING DATE: August 26, 2020 CLOSING DATE: September 11, 2020 TIME: 10:00 A.M.

NMHC JVA NO.	Positions:	Salary:
2020-012	Internal Auditor (1-Position)	UNGRADED $50,000.00 to $60,000.00 per annum
2020-013	Senior Accountant (2- Positions)	UNGRADED $35,000.00 to $45,000.00
2020-014	Accountant (2-Positions)	UNGRADED $25,000.00 to $30,000.00 per annum
2020-015	Project Supervisor (1-Position)	UNGRADED $35,000.00 to $45,000.00 per annum
2020-016	Construction Inspector (3-Positions)	UNGRADED $25,000.00 to $30,000.00 per annum
2020-017	Administrative Specialist (2-Positions)	UNGRADED $25,000.00 to $30,000.00 per annum
2020-018	Receptionist (1-Position)	UNGRADED $20,000.00 to $25,000.00 per annum

Employment application form, detailed job description, qualification requirements and other information can be accessed at www.nmhcgov.net located on the "Job Vacancies Announcements" tab.

Applicants may submit their applications through the following options: Submission at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan; Drop Box located in front of the NMHC Central Office building; or email application and documents to officemanager@nmhcgov.net.

All applicants must complete and submit the NMHC Employment Application Form together with required documents that are listed in the Employment Application Package. Failure to provide the required documents will result in automatic disqualification. NMHC and all its properties are drug-free zones; therefore, selected applicant will be subject to pre-employment drug screening.

It is the policy of the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) that the merit system will be applied and administered according to the principle of equal opportunity for all citizens and nationals as defined by its personnel regulations and the Northern Marianas Commonwealth Constitution regardless of age, race, sex, religion, political affiliation or belief, marital status, disability or place of origin.

For inquiries, please contact Mr. Jacob Muna, Office Manager, at (670) 234-6866/9447or by email to officemanager@nmhcgov.net. NMHC is a fair housing agency and an equal opportunity provider, lender and employer.

/s/
JESSE S. PALACIOS
Corporate Director

NOTICE OF DISSOLUTION

Honest Incorporation Saipan, LLC
A CNMI Limited Liability Company
was dissolved on January 1, 2019.
Any creditor and person with an outstanding claim
against the Company is requested to notify
the corporate office as soon as possible.

Honest Incorporation Saipan, LLC
P.O. Box 506172
Saipan, MP 96950

HonestExchange.670@gmail.com

NOTICE OF DISSOLUTION

HUAXING SINO-US TRADE CORPORATION
A CNMI Corporation was dissolved on August 3, 2020.
Any creditor and person with an outstanding claim
against the Corporation is requested to notify the
corporate office as soon as possible.

HUAXING SINO-US TRADE CORPORATION
PMB 1282 Box 10003
Saipan, MP 96950
Call: 670-483-0068

The President

AMP reopens tennis courts

The American Memorial Park has reopened its tennis courts, starting last Saturday, Sept. 5, 2020.

The courts will be available during daytime hours and players are urged to follow the U.S. Tennis Association "Playing Tennis Safely" (usta.com) guidance that will be posted. Tennis court restrooms will be open and cleaned each morning. The community is asked to respect the safety of park staff and keep a safe distance from the restrooms while they are being cleaned.

The reopening of the tennis courts coincides with shifting the Commonwealth Health Center parking from the tennis court area to the American Memorial Park Visitor Center parking lot. For those using the main parking lot and anyone visiting the park, the safety of staff and visitors remains the highest priority. Remember to practice social distancing and follow local and CDC guidance to help limit the spread of COVID-19 and to stay safe.

Currently the park, including beach areas and pathways, is open for exercise, wellness, and subsistence fishing. The visitor center remains closed and the amphitheater is closed for repairs. The amphitheater construction site is clearly marked, and the public is asked to stay out of that area until work is complete. The Micro Beach restrooms remain closed until repairs are completed. American Memorial Park will continue to work with the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. and CNMI leadership to implement any necessary changes to park operations based on local conditions.

Follow American Memorial Park on Facebook, Instagram, or our website www.nps.gov/amme for updates. ***(NPS)***

2 NMC graduates pass NCLEX-RN

Northern Marianas College nursing graduates Rose Ogo and MJ Masongsong have joined the list of students who passed the challenging National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses or NCLEX-RN. "We are extremely proud of Rose and MJ's accomplishments as well as the other nursing students who have been able to reach this important milestone of passing the NCLEX," said NMC interim president Frankie Eliptico.

Ogo

The NCLEX-RN tests an individual's nursing knowledge, skills and abilities essential to the safe and effective practice of nursing at the entry level. The exam is used by nursing boards in all U.S. states and territories to award nursing licenses.

"Rose and MJ have a bright future in the nursing field and we expect to see great things from them as their educational and professional journeys continue," said NMC Nursing Department chair Rosa T. Aldan.

Masongsong

According to Ogo, she became a nurse so that she could follow in her mother's footsteps. "I've always heard that the profession was hard work but very rewarding," Ogo said. "I wanted to be like my mom and make a difference in people's lives be it small or big."

Masongsong said that NMC helped her in preparing for the NCLEX. "I owe it to my nursing instructors for providing the foundation for my passage of the NCLEX," she said. "They helped hone my clinical skills with hands-on activities which help with procedural content related to the NCLEX. This really helped me keep in the right mindset because there are times when I felt an overwhelming flood of emotions that I could not focus well."

For more information about NMC's nursing program, email Aldan at rosa.aldan@marianas.edu or schedule a virtual appointment at rosaaldan.youcanbook.me. ***(NMC)***

Quake hits Vanuatu

An earthquake with a preliminary magnitude of 6.5 occurred in Vanuatu at 12:59pm yesterday, Sept. 6, 2020. Based on all available evidence, this earthquake poses no threat to the CNMI or Guam. ***(PR)***

WAREHOUSE FOR RENT

Available on January 1, 2021

LOCATION: As Mahetog (Currently Pacific Marine)

WAREHOUSE SPACE:
18,364 square feet

RATE PER SQ. FEET: 30 cents USD

CALL 285-2713

VINCENT J. SEMAN, CNMI Bar No. F-0361
Seman Law Offices, LLC
JET Realty Bldg., Suite 204
P.O. Box 10001 PMB 168, Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone: (670) 323-2115
E-mail: vjseman@semanlaw.com

Attorney for: Petitioner

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

In the Matter of the Estate of PETER MICHAEL PANGELINAN TENORIO, Deceased.	Probate Case No. 20-0280-CV NOTICE OF HEARING ON PETITION TO PROBATE and NOTICE TO CREDITORS Date: Thursday, Sept. 24, 2020 Time: 10:00am Judge: Judge Joseph N. Camacho

TO: THE GENERAL PUBLIC, ANY HEIRS, CLAIMANTS, OR CREDITORS OF THE LATE PETER MICHAEL PANGELINAN TENORIO OR OF HIS ESTATE.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Petitioner, Jacqueline G. Tenorio, has petitioned the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to issue Letters of Administration for the Estate of Peter Michael Pangelinan Tenorio, "Decedent". The attorney for Petitioner is Vincent J. Seman, Esq., whose address is JET Building, Suite 204, Chalan Pale Arnold, Gualo Rai, PO Box 10001 PMB 168, Saipan, MP 96950.

The hearing on the Petition to probate the Estate of Decedent by Petitioner is scheduled to be heard on Thursday, September 24, 2020 at 10:00 am, at Supreme Court Courtroom, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All interested persons or entities should appear at this hearing. Any and all persons, creditors or entities having claims against the Decedent or his estate are hereby required by law to file their claims with the Clerk of Court within Sixty (60) days of the first publication, or the claim(s) may be barred. A copy of your claim should also be sent to Vincent J. Seman, Esq. at his address herein-above indicated.

By: /s/ _____
CLERK OF COURT

MICHAEL N. EVANGELISTA, ESQ. (CNMI Bar No. F0364)
LAW OFFICES OF MICHAEL NORITA EVANGELISTA, LLC
D'Torres Building, Garapan
P.O. Box 504340, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: (670) 235-8060; Fax: (670) 235-8070
Email: mnevangelista8@gmail.com
Attorney for Petitioner Calvani P. Deleon Guerrero

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN RE THE ESTATE THE OF: AGNES PANGELINAN DELEON GUERRERO, Deceased	CIVIL ACTION NO. 20-0283 NOTICE OF HEARING and NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TO: ALL CREDITORS AND INTERESTED CLAIMANTS

NOTICE is hereby given that Calvani P. Deleon Guerrero, of Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, has filed a petition in the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands for Letters of Administration and to be appointed Administrator of the Estate of Agnes Pangelinan Deleon Guerrero, deceased, and to determine the heirs of the decedent. The attorney of record is Michael N. Evangelista, Esq., P.O. Box 50430, Saipan, MP 96950. The hearing on the petition is set for the 24th day of September, 2020, at 10:00 a.m., at the Commonwealth Supreme Court courtroom, before Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho, located at the House of Justice - Guma Hustisia - Imwal Aweewe, Susupe, Saipan, CNMI. All interested persons should appear at this hearing.

All persons having any claims against the estate or against the deceased should file their claims with the Clerk of Court of the Superior Court within sixty (60) days after the first publication of this notice.

Dated this 3rd day of September, 2020

/s/ Clerk of Court

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS (CNMI)
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC LANDS (DPL)
Tel.: (670) 234-3751 • Website: www.dpl.gov.mp • Email: dpl@dpl.gov.mp

NOTICE OF INTENT TO LEASE PUBLIC LAND

In accordance with Section 106 (b) of Public Law 15-2, the Department of Public Lands hereby gives notice of its intent to lease certain public land in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. Any interested parties of the general public may submit comments, data, views, or arguments of alternative proposals for the lease of the public land. As further provided by Public Law 15-2, the following pertinent information is required to be published.

i. The proposed lease of public land is described as Lot 006 E 01 containing an area of approximately 2,877 square meters, more or less, situated in Lower Base, Saipan. A copy of the location of the parcel is available at the Department of Public Lands and website www.dpl.gov.mp for inspection.

ii. The prospective lessee is Unity Trade Service, Inc. The lists of officers for Unity Trade Service, Inc., are Gaudencio C. Macalinao, as President, Jacinta M. Macalinao, as Vice-President, Luzviminda M. Tolentino, as Secretary and Ronel Macalinao, as Authorized Representative.

iii. The proposed lease is compliant with DPL regulations and was negotiated by Mr. Ronel Macalinao.

iv. The lessee shall use the premises solely for the purpose of operation of auto repair shop, sheet metal works, iron & machine shop & other related issues.

The term of the Public Land Lease agreement is 25 years.

The proposed annual rental during the term of the lease agreement is based on a percentage of the appraised fair market value of the property plus the applicable percentage of Business Gross Receipts in DPL's regulation.

v. A copy of the proposed lease agreement may be obtained at the office of the Department of Public Lands, located on the 2nd floor of the Joeten Dandan Commercial Building in Dandan, Saipan; 1st floor of the De'Ana Commercial Building, Songsong Village, Rota; or the 1st floor of the Kings Commercial Building, Tinian. A copy will also be available online at www.dpl.gov.mp

vi. The Department of Public Lands has received no alternative proposals to lease the subject public land in Lower Base, Saipan.

vii. The Secretary of the Department of Public Lands shall accept written comments, views, arguments or alternative proposals from interested parties on or before, September 21, 2020 at the Department of Public Lands offices located in Saipan, Rota or Tinian.

NUTISIA NU INTENSIÓN NI PARA U MA'ATKILA TANU' PUPBLIKU

Sigun gi Seksiona 106 (b) gi Lai Pupliku 15-2, i Dipattamentun Tanu' Pupbliku ha nå'i nutisia guini put i intension-ña ni para u na ma'atkila palu na tanu' pupbliku giya Saipan, Commonwealth gi Sangkattan na Islas Marianas Siha. Maseha håyi na pitsona siha gi halum pupbliku henerât siña muna'na'halum upiñon, imfotmasion, pat testimoñiun kinentra gi tinahguin prinoponi siha para i atkilon tanu' pupbliku. Kumu mås mo'na mapribeniyi ni Lai Pupbliku 15-2, i sigienti na pettanesi na imfotmasion madimånda na para u mapupblika.

i. I maproponi na atkilon tanu' pupbliku madiskribi kumu Lot 006 E 01 ni ha kunsisisti i åria gi kåsi guaha 2,877 square meters, mås pat menus, ni gaigi giya Lower Base, Saipan. I kopian i pumalu na lugåt gumuaha gi Dipattamentun Tanu' Pupbliku yan gi website www.dpl.gov.mp para i rinikonosimientu.

ii. I prospective lessee i Unity Trade Service, Inc. I manmembru yan manehånti siha gi Unity Trade Service, Inc., si Gaudencio C. Macalinao, komu Presidenti, si Jacinta M. Macalinao, komu Sigundu Presidenti, si Luzviminda M. Tolentino, komu Sekritåria yan si Ronel Macalinao, komu "Authorized Representative".

iii. I maproponi na atkilon mankonfotma yan i regulasion DPL yan manigosiu gi as Siñot Ronel Macalinao.

iv. I lessee debi na u usa i lugåt solamenti para operasion nu "auto repair shop", sheet metal work, iron" o sino "machine shop" yan otru manasosiåt na prublema.

I teman kuntråtan Atkilon Tanu' Pupbliku bentisingku (25) åñus.

I maproponi na atkilon kada såkkan gi durântin i tema magiha sigun gi putsientu i "appraised fair market value" gi propiedåt yan i aplikåbli na putsientu nu "Business Gross Receipts" gi halum regulasion DPL.

v. I kopian i maproponi na kuntråtan atkilon siña machuli' gi ufisinan Dipåttamentun Tanu' Pupbliku, ni gaigi gi Sigundu (2nd) na bibiendan i Joeten Dandan Commercial Building iya Dandan, Saipan, gi primet (1st) na bibiendan i De'Ana Commercial Building, iya Songsong na sengsong, Luta; pat gi primet (1st) na bibiendan i King's Commercial Building, giya Tini'an. I kopia managuaha lokkui' gi online gi www.dpl.gov.mp

vi. I Dipattamentun Tanu' Pupbliku tåya' ha risibi tinahguin propositu siha para u ma'atkila masuhetu na tanu' pupbliku gi Lower Base, Saipan.

vii. I Sekritårian Dipattamentun Tanu' Pupbliku debi na u aksepta tinigi' upiñon, imfotmasion, testimoniun kinentra pat tinahguin priniponi ginin i manintirisåo na pattida siha gi pat åntis di Septembre 21, 2020 gi ufisinan Dipattamentun Tanu' Pupbliku siha ni gaigi giya Saipan, Luta pat Tinian.

ARONGORONG REEL MÁNGEMÁNGIL ATKKILÓÓNOL FALUWEER TOULAP

Llól abwúngubwúng fengál me Tálil 106 (b) reel Alléghúl Toulap 15-2, Bwulasiyol Ammwelil Faluweer Toulap re mángemángil rebwe atkkilaay ákkááw faluweer toulap iye e lo Seipél, Commonwealth Téél Falúw kka Efáng llól Marianas. Aramasal toulap ikka re tipáli rebwe isiisilong ischil mángemáng, data, views, ngáre angiingi reel pommw ikka ra siiweli ngáli atkkilóónol faluweer toulap. Iye re bwal ayoorai sángi Alléghúl Toulap 15-2, arongorong ikka e amwirimwiritiw e ffil ebwe bwal akkatééwow.

i. Pommwol atkkilóónol faluweer toulap iye re óleghi igha nge lot 006 D 01 iye e bwáá bwe 2,877 square meters, elápeló ngáre eghus, iye e lo Lower Base, Seipél. Pappidil bwuléy eyoor me Bwulasiyol Ammwelil Faluweer Toulap me bwal wóól website www.dpl.gov.mp reel ubwe amwuri.

ii. Prospective lessee nge unity Trade Service, Inc. List-al officers ngáli Unity Trade Service, Inc., nge Gaudencio C. Macalinao, bwe President, Jacinta M. Macalinao, bwe Vice-President, Luzviminda M. Tolentino, bwe Sekkretóóriya me Ronel Macalinao, bwe Authorized Representative.

iii. Pommwol Atkkilóón e angúúngú fengál me mwóghutughutúl DPL me e ppwol sángi Mr. Ronel Macalinao.

iv. Schóól Atkkilóón ebwe yááyá bwuléy ngáli mwóghutughutúl auto repair shop, angaangil sheet metal, iron me machine shop me ákkááw mwóghutughut ikka e schuulong igha.

Pommwol Abwungubwungúl Atkkilóónol Faluweer Toulap nge ruweigh me limoow ráágh.
Pommwol atkkilóónol ghal ráágh atoll kkapasal abungubwungúl atkkilóón e lo reel "percentage" reel "appraised fair market value" reel falúw fengál me "applicable percentage" reel "Business Gross Receipts" llól mwóghutughutúl DPL.

v. Pappidil pommwol abwungubwungúl atkkilóón emmwel ubwe bweibwogh me Bwulasiyol Ammwelil Faluweer Toulap, iye e lo 2nd floor reel Joeten Dandan Commercial Building llól Dandan, Seipél; 1st floor reel De'Ana Commercial Building, Sóóbwol Songsong, Luuta; ngáre 1st floor reel King's Commercial Building, Tchiliyól. Ebwal yoor pappidil mille online me www.dpl.gov.mp

vi. Bwulasiyol Ammwelil Faluweer Toulap rese bweibwogh pommwol siiwel ngáli atkkilóón iye rebwe atkkilaay me Lower Base, Seipél.

vii. Sekkretóóriyal Bwulasiyol Ammwelil Faluweer Toulap ebwe bweibwogh ischil mángemáng, views, angiingi ngáre pommwol siiwel sángi schóó kka re mwuschel isiisilong wóól ngáre mmwalil Settembre 21, 2020 me Bwulasiyol Ammwelil Faluweer Toulap iye e lo Seipél, Luuta, ngáre Tchiliyól.

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
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EDITORIAL

Eviction ban will keep the deluge of misery at bay. For now

The Trump administration gave struggling renters a major reprieve this week by declaring a national moratorium on evictions, ensuring that many tenants who've lost income and can't pay the rent won't be ousted from their homes this year.

The ban on evictions is unprecedented, sweeping and desperately needed. Millions of laid-off Americans have teetered on the edge of financial disaster for months now. Thanks to an extra $600 a week in unemployment benefits, the vast majority of tenants were able to keep making all or much of their rent payments. But those benefits ended in August—largely because Senate Republicans and Trump opposed a House-passed bill to extend them—even though vast numbers of workers are still off the job or on reduced hours.

Many states' eviction moratoriums have also expired or will do so soon, leaving tenants at the mercy of eviction courts. Trump's order comes at a critical moment.

The order was issued by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, which rightly recognized that we can't slow the spread of COVID-19 unless people have a home in which to quarantine, isolate and socially distance. It would be counterproductive to controlling the pandemic and, possibly, deadly to let renters be evicted into homelessness.

Unlike the previous patchwork of state and local moratoriums, this new national ban applies to all tenants who meet the broad criteria laid out in the CDC order. Among other requirements, tenants must have incomes no higher than $99,000 per individual or $198,000 per married couple, must have suffered a significant loss of income and must have tried to make rental payments.

The national moratorium sets a baseline of protection for tenants through the end of the year. It doesn't supersede states and cities that have enacted greater safeguards.

That means California's new eviction measure still stands. That law, which Gov. Gavin Newsom signed minutes before an existing moratorium expired, bars evictions through Jan. 31. Better yet, as long as tenants pay 25% of the rent owed by that time, they cannot be evicted for being delinquent on the rest even after the new state moratorium expires. Their unpaid rent will become consumer debt, and landlords will have to go to civil court to recoup the money. Tenants who do not pay at least 25% of their rent debt, however, can be evicted for nonpayment after Feb. 1.

It took weeks of hard-fought negotiations between lawmakers, landlords and tenant advocates for California to pass this plan. Meanwhile, the unabashedly pro-business Trump administration imposed the national moratorium with no relief or concessions to landlords. Administration officials said states and cities could choose to use federal relief dollars they received earlier in the year to bail out landlords.

These eviction moratoriums are essential so people don't lose their homes in a pandemic. But tenants will eventually have to come up with the rent payments they missed. Under Trump's national moratorium, tenants would be responsible

See EVICTION on Next Page

OVER 3 MONTHS OF LOOTING, BURNING, AND DEADLY MAYHEM!
AND WHY? BECAUSE SOME MAYORS THOUGHT IT WAS SMART TO LET THESE ANARCHISTS "VENT."
WHERE WAS BARNEY FIFE WHEN YOU NEEDED HIM?
YOU GOTTA NIP IT! NIP IT IN THE BUD!
RIOT CONTROL 101
AGITATED STATE
HITCH

We must educate future generations on the myths and realities of socialism

By KAY C. JAMES
The Heritage Foundation

Kay C. James is president of The Heritage Foundation (heritage.org).

A frightening 70% of millennials say they would back a socialist candidate for office. And today, we are seeing many socialist ideas gaining traction, such as "free" college tuition for all, government-run health care and a guaranteed income even for able-bodied people who don't work.

While we can blame some of the attraction to socialism on its false promises of fixing every social ill, the nearly inescapable indoctrination present in our schools and universities, and the members of the media who carry its water, some of the blame lies with us, the older generation.

Too often, we have failed to educate newer generations about the myths and realities of socialism, instead leaving it up to others who have a different agenda. In partial reparation, then, here are six of the more persistent myths debunked.

MYTH NO. 1: Socialism has never failed because it has never really been tried. In truth, socialism has failed everywhere it has been tried for over a century, from the former Soviet Union to the democratic socialism of Israel, India and Great Britain after World War II to present-day Venezuela. Its economic system doesn't work; it doesn't respect human rights; and because it works against human nature, government must constantly suppress the people to keep them compliant.

Socialism's failures abound across the globe. Venezuela, for example, once had one of the world's largest oil reserves. Today, 90% of its people live in poverty, and they need a wheelbarrow of Venezuelan bolivars to buy a loaf of bread.

Even socialism's "best" experiments didn't work. "The world's most successful experiment in socialism," a prominent economist wrote about Israel, has "resolutely embraced capitalism."

MYTH NO. 2: Denmark (or your favorite Scandinavian country) is a prime example that socialism works. The reality is, Denmark has a free-market economy that produces the goods and services that the government then heavily taxes to finance an extensive welfare state.

Despite American socialists' claims, Denmark's prime minister once told a shocked Washington, D.C., audience: "I would like to make one thing clear ... Denmark is a market economy." The nation actually has a great deal of economic freedom with few business regulations and no minimum wage (along with the other Scandinavian countries). Like Denmark, Sweden, Finland and Norway all rely on free-market capitalism to finance their expansive welfare systems.

MYTH NO. 3: Socialism is compassionate and caring. In truth, socialists only care about the collective, not the individual person. To justify his Orwellian actions, Lenin used the cynical cliche, "You can't make an omelet without breaking a few eggs." Well, they weren't eggs but humans, and 100 million of them have been victims of Marxist-Leninist socialism, according to Harvard's "The Black Book of Communism."

In Maoist China, children as young as 12 were subject to capital punishment, women were forced to work in coal mines and workers were harassed during their lunchtime with threats of prison if they returned to work late. In the Soviet Union, people faced perpetual surveillance, leading one dissident to say, "We lived in a world swarming with invisible eyes and ears."

MYTH NO. 4: Socialism places power in the hands of the people. Actually, true socialism depends upon the dictatorship of a military leader or a political party.

After 60 years of the "Revolucion," the Cuban people are still waiting for the democratic election that Fidel Castro promised them. Socialist leaders promised to bring down dictators only to replace them with their own Marxist dictatorships in places like China, North Korea, Vietnam and Laos.

MYTH NO. 5: Karl Marx, socialism's founder, was one of the great thinkers of the 19th century. Marx was wrong about nearly everything. Nearly 200 years after "The Communist Manifesto," the nation state has not withered away. Capitalism, not socialism, rules the global economy. Workers have not turned into revolutionaries but entrepreneurs. And private property—rather than being rejected -- is a cornerstone of every prosperous country.

MYTH NO. 6: Human nature is malleable and easily changed by government edicts. For 70 years, the Soviet Union tried to suppress people's innermost desires for freedom and for improving their lot in life. In practice, socialism depends on constant policing by the state and huge prison camps like the Soviet gulag and the Chinese laogai to coerce people and maintain power.

The inalienable rights outlined in the Declaration of Independence and protected in the U.S. Constitution reject the Marxist

See SOCIALISM on Next Page

EDITORIAL POLICY Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

POINT

Workplace transformation will affect everyone, even labor unions

By SEAN HIGGINS
InsideSources.com

Sean Higgins is a research fellow with the Competitive Enterprise Institute, a free market public policy organization. He wrote this for InsideSources.com.

The Labor Day holiday dates back to the early 20th century and envisioned as a public celebration of "the strength and esprit de corps of the trade and labor organizations" of the community.

This year's commemoration may seem strained with social distancing and much uncertainty about the future of jobs and opportunity, but the situation is less dire than feared at the start of the COVID-19 crisis. Americans are resilient and are finding ways to cope. We should all take pride in that. It's also possible the disruption will have some positive side effects, like shaking up the status quo regarding labor unions.

It is unlikely work life will revert to the way it was before the COVID-19 crisis. Many workers have learned to clock in from home—and found they prefer it. Big companies are rethinking large offices now that they know workers can do things remotely. Service-oriented businesses like restaurants have switched over to delivery as the primary means of reaching customers. City populations will thin if offices go empty, and the ancillary businesses that relied on the white-collar workers—like dry cleaners, delis and parking lots—will thin out, as well.

Parents who hadn't considered home schooling have been forced to try it or other alternate education models. Some parents will prefer the alternatives, meaning smaller classes and fewer teachers at traditional schools. Doctors learned how to practice telemedicine, when possible, limiting their need for offices and support staff. And so on, across the economy.

That's "creative destruction" happening, and it's a necessary if sometimes painful sort of change. We must cope and adjust. Instead of being clustered together in a workplace, more of us will be independent actors, providing valuable services from home. One of the great banes of workers—commuting—will decline as a concern. Fewer people will need to leave their home, and those who must will find streets less crowded. Parents who once saw their children for only a few hours a day will now be more often present.

What will all this change mean for labor unions, a prominent workforce influencer for more than a century? The shift away from a traditional workplace eliminates one of the main ways organizing was accomplished: employees talking to one another. Workers will be less inclined to see themselves as members of a collective if they don't actually see fellow workers on a daily basis. Individual workers will feel more empowered to make demands of their employers, since they can more easily switch to another job. In schools, even a modest decline in class size will likely have a huge effect on teachers unions, since this will cut down the number of teachers. Union leaders were already struggling to maintain their numbers in the pre-COVID-19 workplace.

The growth in the so-called gig economy, now accelerated, will be a particular problem for unions. Gig workers are typically hired as contractors and, therefore, not legally organizable by unions. That's why unions have been fighting a rearguard effort to force companies to classify those workers as employees, most notably through California's AB 5 law.

Unfortunately, cracking down on companies like Uber and Lyft simultaneously curtailed the work of other freelance professions, too, causing considerable blowback against AB 5. Uber and Lyft have threatened to stop operating in the Golden State altogether if the law survives coming battles in court and at the ballot box. It is hoped California's misfortunes will deter other states from imposing such a draconian law.

Either way, the road ahead will be difficult for many people. The unemployment rate stands at 10.2%, twice what it was when President Donald Trump took office and nearly three times what it was at this point last year. There are 8.4 million people who are working only part time, more than twice what it was in February. More than 7 million cite "lack work or business conditions" as the reason they are part-timers. Businesses large and small alike have closed, taking jobs with them.

Meanwhile, the government has been paying large unemployment stipends for the better part of the year, with the main debate in Congress over just how large those benefits should be. At least the benefits don't appear to have eroded Americans' work ethic too much: Employment numbers have jumped every time people have been given the opportunity to work. Right now, allowing Americans to get back to work is still the best thing we can do for them, particularly in this altered world we find ourselves, where work as we knew it is changing rapidly.

COUNTERPOINT

What is our government doing to labor?

By MARK WEISBROT
InsideSources.com

Mark Weisbrot is co-director of the Center for Economic and Policy Research in Washington, D.C. He is the author of Failed: What the 'Experts' Got Wrong About the Global Economy. *He wrote this for InsideSources.com.*

America has lost more than 12 million jobs in the last six months. An estimated 12 million people have lost their employer-sponsored health insurance during the worst pandemic in a century. Tens of millions report not having enough to eat.

But one month ago, tens of millions of unemployed Americans lost a lifeline that, for many, had been paying their bills for months: a $600 weekly federal unemployment insurance benefit that Congress failed to renew at the end of July.

How can this happen in a democracy? This is a question that everyone who works for a living—or would like to do so if they could find a job—might want to consider on this Labor Day.

Polls indicate that Democratic voters tend to blame Republicans, and vice versa, for the failure to reach an agreement to extend these benefits. But if the facts of this political disaster were more widely known and understood, Republicans could lose not only the presidency but also the Senate in November. After all, millions of unemployed Republicans lost most of their income as a result of what their political party wanted, and did.

Q: What is the state of labor on Labor Day 2020?

The Democratic-controlled House passed a $3 trillion bill in May, which extended the federal unemployment benefits through Jan. 31. Senate Republicans waited until July 27—just four days before the expiration of the unemployment benefits, before responding with their own proposal. This all but guaranteed that the benefits would expire. Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell acknowledged on July 29 that about 20 Republicans senators didn't want any new legislation at all.

Republican senators repeatedly expressed worries that the unemployment benefits created a "disincentive to work." But economists have found no evidence of this; on the contrary, millions of workers who were receiving these benefits returned to work in May through July, and there are more than 11 million more workers unemployed than there are job openings.

Other Republicans wanted to cut the federal benefit by as much as two-thirds. But the fact that the Republicans could not agree among themselves on the magnitude of the pain to be inflicted pretty much eliminated the chance of a negotiated solution.

The biggest stumbling block in the negotiations was over money for the states and cities/local governments. McConnell himself had come under fire for rejecting calls for assistance to state and local governments, suggesting instead that states should consider going bankrupt. The House bill allocated about $900 billion, but Republicans weren't having it. This funding has overwhelming support among economists, because it is so obviously necessary. States are losing hundreds of billions of dollars of revenue from taxes during this deep recession. Unlike the federal government, they have laws that prohibit them from running budget deficits and borrowing during a recession.

By contrast, the federal government can currently borrow at zero interest rates—actually negative interest rates if we take inflation into account. So, it makes obvious economic sense for the federal government to distribute some of this money to the states, as well as to thousands of local governments that also provide services. The cost to our economy, and Americans present and future, of not providing these funds is much greater than the debt incurred.

State governments are responsible for much of the health care needs that have increased during the pandemic. They also need additional money for education infrastructure as much of it moves online. Not to mention the need to preserve essential services such as transportation, water and sanitation. Also, layoffs at state and local governments will disproportionately harm Black workers.

Who would want to be forcing layoffs—potentially totaling millions at the state and local level—during a depression and pandemic? Ask Sen. McConnell and Donald Trump.

SOCIALISM

From Page 8

idea that people can be molded like clay by a central government.

These are just some of the many myths and realities of socialism, an ideology that has failed everywhere it's been tried. We must each in our own way work to enlighten our children and grandchildren about its evils and its failures. We must be there to counter the falsehoods they are learning from professors, the media and pop culture, or we will surely lose another generation to this poisonous ideology.

EVICTION

From Page 8

for paying back all they owe, plus late fees and penalties, on Jan. 1. So far, the moratoriums have only delayed, not averted, the looming wave of evictions when the rent debt comes due.

There's still another problem looming. Eviction moratoriums are forcing some property owners to go without rent payments for nine months or longer. Most landlords are small-business owners. How are they supposed to pay their property taxes or utility bills? How can they pay the employees who manage their properties?

The only real solution at this point is money. The $3 trillion coronavirus relief bill that House Democrats passed a bill in May included a $100 billion emergency rental assistance fund for low-income tenants. That plan could still be the lifeline for struggling tenants and landlords, who have been forced to bear the brunt of the COVID financial crisis.

Trump's eviction moratorium prevented disaster. He and Congress now need to provide the dollars needed to make sure tenants and landlords can survive the pandemic and its aftermath.

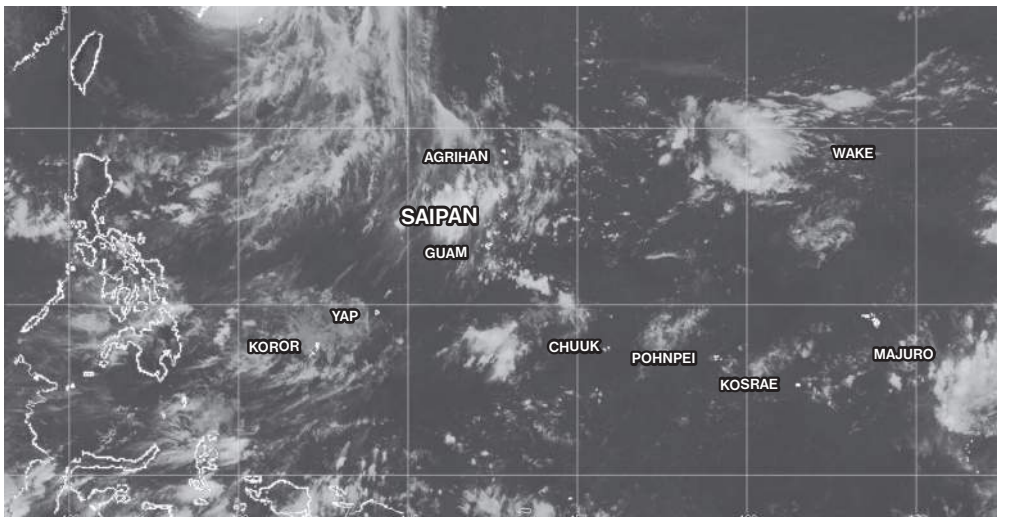
(c) 2020 *Los Angeles Times*

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Mostly cloudy. Scattered showers becoming isolated near noon. Isolated thunderstorms. Light and variable winds.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Light and variable winds.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.
89º / 77º	89º / 78º	86º / 76º	86º / 76º	86º / 76º

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 8:06 AM, SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2020

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A modest surface trough extends northeastward from far western Micronesia, passing east of Guam at 13N150E to end northeast of Wake Island at 22N172E. An upper-level trough reaches northward from a low southeast of Guam at 12N151E to another low south of Minami Tori Shima at 21N157E. Patchy showers and isolated thunderstorms are seen over the northern CNMI.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

STOP THE SPREAD

The Governor's COVID-19 Task Force and Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. continue to encourage residents within the Marianas to practice social distancing, which means avoiding close contact with people in order to avoid catching the virus yourself and to avoid passing it on to others.

- Stay home as much as possible. Avoid unnecessary travel or public places.
- Avoid social gatherings in groups of more than 10.
- Choose drive-thru, take-out, or delivery options, or outdoor seating, if available, when dining in.
- Send only one healthy adult from the household run necessary errands, such as getting groceries or picking up medications. Leave children, elderly, and other vulnerable people at home as much as possible. When returning home from an errand, wash your hands before doing anything else.
- Older adults and people with chronic medical conditions are at higher risk of getting very sick from this illness. People at high risk should stay at home as much as possible.
- Create a household plan of action, https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prepare/checklist-household-ready.html
- Ensure a 30-day supply of all medicines.

Continue good hand hygiene

- Wash your hands for at least 20 seconds with soap and water, avoid touching your face, cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or your sleeve.
- Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water are not readily available.

Know the signs and symptoms of COVID-19 and what to do if you become symptomatic

- Stay home when you are sick and if you recently traveled to a place with COVID-19. Self-quarantine means:
- ❏ Choosing a room in your house that can be used to separate sick household members from others.
- ❏ Washing your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- ❏ Avoiding touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- ❏ Limiting visitors

CHCC appreciates the patience and understanding of the community at this time. To obtain general information about the CNMI COVID-19 response, contact the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force Hotline at 287-0046, 287-0489, 287-1089. These numbers are available Monday to Sunday, 7:30am - 4:30pm.

For medical information about COVID-19, reach out to the COVID-19 Infoline at the following numbers: 285-1672/1352. These numbers are available Monday to Friday, 7:30am - 4:30pm.

For mental health support and helpful tips during a crisis, call the Mental Health Support Line at 285-1856, 323-6560, 323-6561 These numbers are available Monday to Friday, 7:30am - 4:30 pm. For the 24/7 Disaster Distress Helpline, call SAMSHA at 1-800-985-5990.

For more information about DIY face coverings, visit https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/cloth-face-cover.html

For more information about CHCC programs, follow CHCC on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter at @cnmichcc, check out our website at www.chcc.gov.mp or call us at (670) 234-8950.

For more information on the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force, visit www.governor.gov.mpand, follow @GovernorCNMI on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

This health advisory may be found online at http://www.chcc.gov.mp/pressrelease.html and at www.governor.gov.mp/covid-19.

Rumor control

During crises like this, oftentimes the spread of misinformation is just as dangerous as the virus itself. The CNMI is reminded to only share official and verified notices, press releases, and advisories from the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force and CHCC.

Source: Office of the Governor

MICRONESIA	▲ ▼ °F	
Guam and Rota	Thunderstorms	84° / 77°
Palau	Thunderstorms	85° / 78°
Yap	Thunderstorms	87° / 79°
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	87° / 80°
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	88° / 77°
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	88° / 77°
Majuro	Thunderstorms	86° / 81°

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	6:05 AM	6:24 PM
Tuesday	6:05 AM	6:23 PM
Wednesday	6:05 AM	6:23 PM
Thursday	6:05 AM	6:22 PM
Friday	6:05 AM	6:21 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	-	9:47 AM	9:42 PM
Tuesday	-	10:35 AM	10:21 PM
Wednesday	-	11:24 AM	11:03 PM
Thursday	-	12:16 PM	11:49 PM
Friday	-	1:09 PM	6:28 AM

AROUND THE GLOBE	▲ ▼ °F	
Auckland	Mostly Sunny	61° / 52°
Beijing	Sunny	90° / 68°
Hong Kong	Thunderstorms	90° / 81°
Honolulu	Mostly Sunny	86° / 74°
London	Showers	64° / 52°
Los Angeles	Sunny	84° / 68°
Manila	Thunderstorms	91° / 79°
Melbourne	Showers	54° / 41°
Miami	Thunderstorms	88° / 82°
New York	Partly Cloudy	77° / 60°
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	86° / 70°
Paris	Mostly Cloudy	66° / 55°
Busan	Mostly Sunny	84° / 70°
Rome	Mostly Sunny	81° / 63°
Salem	Sunny	79° / 56°
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	68° / 58°
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	84° / 64°
Tokyo	Rain	79° / 66°
Washington, DC	Mostly Sunny	75° / 57°

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY		FEET
4:42 AM	LOW TIDE	0.58
10:41 AM	HIGH TIDE	1.69
4:50 PM	LOW TIDE	0.82
10:31 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.73

FLIGHT SCHEDULE

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA117	7:30am	8:10am	1, 4
UA117	7:50am	8:30am	6

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA174	5:50am	6:31am	1, 4
UA174	6:15am	6:56am	6

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); UA United Airlines • ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

SAIPAN TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1301.2	8:30AM	9:00AM	Tues/Fri
1303	3:30PM	4:00PM	Tues/Fri

ROTA TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3101.2	9:30AM	10:00AM	Tues/Fri
3103	4:30PM	5:00PM	Tues/Fri

ROTA TO GUAM

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3401	12:15	12:45	Temporarily Unavailable

GUAM TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
4301	13:00	13:30	Temporarily Unavailable

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1201	7:00	7:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1202	8:00	8:15	Daily
1203	9:00	9:15	Daily
1204	10:00	10:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1205	11:00	11:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1206	12:00	12:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1207	13:00	13:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1208	14:00	14:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1209	15:00	15:15	Daily
1210	16:00	16:15	Daily
1211	17:00	17:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1212	18:00	18:15	Temporarily Unavailable

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
2101	7:30	7:45	Temporarily Unavailable
2102	8:30	8:45	Daily
2103	9:30	9:45	Daily
2104	10:30	10:45	Temporarily Unavailable
2105	11:30	11:45	Temporarily Unavailable
2106	12:30	12:45	Temporarily Unavailable
2107	13:30	13:45	Temporarily Unavailable
2108	14:30	14:45	Temporarily Unavailable
2109	15:30	15:45	Daily
2110	16:30	16:45	Daily
2111	17:30	17:45	Temporarily Unavailable
2112	18:30	18:45	Temporarily Unavailable

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Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.net

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Business

Pig out at Piggy House

By MARK RABAGO
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Generous potions, check. Authentic Korean food, check. Affordable prices, check.

Piggy House along Middle Road checks all the boxes for hungry customers looking for great-tasting Korean food without burning a hole in one's wallet.

Another thing working for Piggy House, said owner Kim Gean Hei, is the homey feel of the restaurant since it's actually a family-run restaurant.

"Our restaurant is run solely by our family, meaning that all the experience, recipes, and taste stay consistent and delicious. Our head chef has lived more than 30 years of her life working as a chef in Korea, and the years of her work are shown in every meal we cook up. We are also run entirely by our family, meaning that we make the food, run the business, and manage the restaurant all by ourselves. This makes the kitchen—and the whole restaurant by extension—a comfortable and friendly environment," she said.

Piggy House currently has four bestselling dishes: Bossam (steamed pork with cabbage), Kimchi Jun (Korean kimchi vegetable pancake), Baeksook (whole chicken soup), and Jaengban Jjajang (big tray black bean noodles).

Like all businesses on island, Piggy House was also affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. In fact, Kim said while the restaurant didn't close, they were only able to do takeout from March to around June. When they did reopen for dine-in a couple of months back, the number of customers have declined.

"Since reopening, business has been definitely slower than before COVID-19. I think this is the same with all restaurants and businesses. It is alright though, since getting rid of the spread of COVID-19 and the safety of our islands come first!" she said.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Bossam (steamed pork with cabbage).

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Kimchi Jun (Korean kimchi vegetable pancake).

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Baeksook (whole chicken soup).

Kim also assured dine-in customers that Piggy House adheres to all safety precautions and guidelines set by the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force to prevent the spread of the coronavirus. "First, we require customers to wear masks. No masks, no service. Second, we currently have a customer admittance limit of 40 people, which is half of the normal capacity. Lastly, we keep the place absolutely sanitary to prevent any virus or bacteria from lingering on surfaces," she said.

Piggy House is located along Middle Road next to I Love Saipan Outlet Store. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

MARK RABAGO
Jaengban Jjajang (big tray black bean noodles).

When asked why they chose Piggy House as the name of the restaurant, Kim said the name actually was a compromise. "It meant to be called Piggy Bank because our most popular dish at the time was pork (pork belly) and also because piggy bank means money. But we just settled for Piggy House," she said.

The Piggy House owner thanked their regular customers for supporting them throughout this time of hardship. "We hope you all stay healthy and well. We will continue to provide you the best Korean meals on island! To the newer customers or to whoever may be interested, you will always be welcome with an overflowing amount of warm Korean food that will leave you coming back for more. We promise you that. The delicious taste and the amount we provide will definitely be worth our cheap price! Try it, try it, you might like it!" said Kim.

Piggy House is located along Middle Road next to the I Love Saipan Outlet Store in Chalan Laulau. It is open from Monday to Friday, 11am-2pm for lunch and 6pm-9pm for dinner. Saturdays and Sundays are dinner-only.

For more information or for reservations, call 233-8383 or 783-8383.

Child care crisis pushes US mothers out of the labor force

NEW YORK (AP)—Angela Wynn had just launched her own project management business, hitting a career stride after years of struggle that began with earning an undergraduate degree as a single mother.

Then the coronavirus pandemic hit, forcing many schools to shift online. The now-married mother of five saw little choice but to give up her newly minted business to help three of her children cope with remote learning while her husband, the primary breadwinner, kept his job at a senior living center.

"To see all that come to fruition, I did it, but now it's gone," said Wynn, who has always been the main caretaker for her children, ages 1, 5, 11, 12 and 18. "But my priority is my kids and their education is everything."

Wynn's story is becoming distressingly common. Research is increasingly pointing to a retreat of working mothers from the U.S. labor force as the pandemic leaves parents with few child care options and the added burden of navigating distance learning.

The trend threatens the financial stability of families in the near-term. In the long-term, the crisis could stall — if not reverse — decades of hard-fought gains by working women who are still far from achieving labor force parity with men.

Thousands of school districts are starting the school year with remote instruction, including most of the largest ones. At least half the country's child care providers are closed and may not survive the crisis without financial help to cope with implementing safety standards and reduced enrollment. Negotiations for a bailout of the industry have stalled in Congress.

In August, the federal jobs reports showed that women in their prime-earning years — 25 to 54 — were dropping out of the work force more than other age groups. About 77% of women in that age group were working or looking for work in February, compared to 74.9% in August. The decline is most pronounced among Black women of that age range, whose participation rate is down 5 percentage points since February, compared to 4 percentage points for Hispanic women and 2 percentage points for white women.

Bank of Hawaii offers free health check app to local businesses

HONOLULU, Hawaii—Bank of Hawaii is announcing its new health screening app called Health Check, available for free at the App Store and Google Play.

In an effort to support local businesses prepare for reopening once Oahu's work-at-home/stay-at-home order is lifted, Bank of Hawaii is making its Health Check app, developed by its own Information Technology and E-commerce Divisions, available to employers and their employees.

"As the COVID-19 pandemic continues, Bank of Hawaii remains steadfast in our commitment to help curb the spread of the virus in our island communities," said Peter Ho, chairman, president and CEO of Bank of Hawaii. "We hope this application serves as an additional safeguard for our local businesses and organizations, and allows for added peace of mind for both employees and the community at large."

Questions
Have you or someone you've been in contact with had a fever, cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, chills, muscle pain, sore throat, or new loss of taste or smell that cannot be attributed to another health condition in the past 2-14 days?
YES
NO
Have you had contact with a person known to be infected, potentially infected, or exposed to someone infected with COVID-19 within the previous 14 days?
YES
NO
Have you or someone you've been in contact with traveled domestically or internationally in the last 14 days?
YES
NO

While the app does not detect COVID-19, when used appropriately, it serves as an added layer of protection by allowing individuals who may be exhibiting symptoms, or who may have been exposed or potentially exposed to COVID-19 to perform a self-assessment before they enter the workplace. The app features three simple questions based on the U.S. Chamber of Commerce's Employee Screening Questionnaire.

» Designed to quickly screen employees before entering the workplace

Employers may request to see results in the lobbies or entrances of their establishments before the employee enters the facility. If employees answer "yes" to any of the three questions, they are advised through the app not to enter the facility, to avoid contact with others, and to contact their manager.

The health screening app does not ask for any personally identifiable information, nor does the app use location tracking or collect/store/share any information. It is a questionnaire in which employees may use before entering the workplace.

For more information, please visit https://www.boh.com/health-check-app. ***(PR)***

Nation

Cohen memoir casts him as 'star witness' against Trump

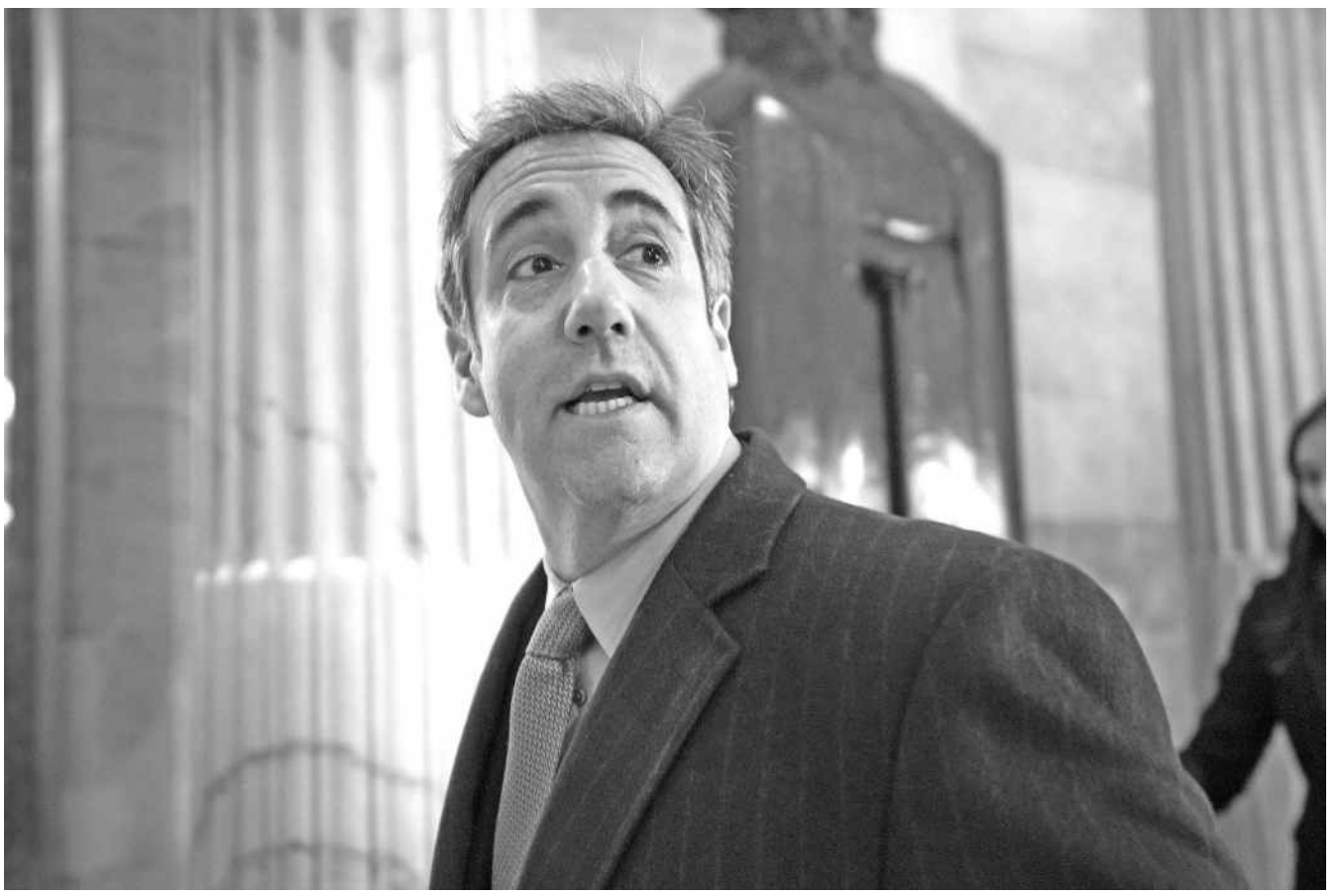
NEW YORK (AP)—Michael Cohen's tell-all memoir makes the case that President Donald Trump is "guilty of the same crimes" that landed his former fixer in federal prison, offering a blow-by-blow account of Trump's alleged role in a hush money scandal that once overshadowed his presidency.

Of all the crises Cohen confronted working for Trump, none proved as vexing as the porn actress Stormy Daniels and her claims of an extramarital affair with Trump, Cohen writes in "Disloyal: The True Story of the Former Personal Attorney to President Donald J. Trump."

Trump, despite his later protestations, green-lighted the $130,000 payment to silence Daniels ahead of the 2016 election, reasoning he would "have to pay" his wife a far greater sum if the affair ever became known, Cohen writes, adding the president later reimbursed him with "fake legal fees."

"It never pays to settle these things, but many, many friends have advised me to pay," Trump said, according to Cohen. "If it comes out, I'm not sure how it would play with my supporters. But I bet they'd think it's cool that I slept with a porn star."

The White House called Cohen's memoir "fan fiction."



AP

In this March 6, 2019 file photo, Michael Cohen, President Donald Trump's former lawyer, returns to testify on Capitol Hill in Washington.

"He readily admits to lying routinely but expects people to believe him now so that he can make money from book sales," White House spokesman Brian Morgenstern said in a statement. "It's unfortunate that the media is exploiting this sad and desperate man to attack President Trump."

The Associated Press obtained an early copy of the book, which is scheduled to be released Tuesday.

Cohen, who pleaded guilty to campaign finance violations and other crimes, including lying to Congress, calls himself the "star witness" of a hush-money conspiracy that still could culminate in charges for Trump after he leaves office. He described his new book as a "fundamental piece of evidence" of the president's guilt.

Cohen's allegations — his most detailed to date — are part of an unsparing and deeply personal put-down of Trump. Cohen assails Trump as an "organized crime don" and "master manipulator," but allows that he saw much of himself in a man he once considered a father figure.

"I care for Donald Trump, even to this day," Cohen writes, "and I had and still have a lot of affection for him."

Cohen remains at a loss to explain his unswerving allegiance to a cutthroat businessman who abandoned him at the most vulnerable point in his life. He likens his fealty to Trump to a mental illness and said he thought of himself as acting like a drug user in need of an intervention.

"It seemed to (my family) that I wouldn't listen to anyone, not even the people who loved me most, as I gradually gave up control of my mind to Trump," Cohen writes.

"I confess I never really did understand why pleasing Trump meant so much to me," Cohen adds. "To this day I don't have the full answer."

The memoir offers an introspective — and at times self-loathing — apology for the role Cohen played in Trump's political ascent. He urged Trump for years to run for president but now laments that his election "led the nation and maybe even the world to the brink of disaster."

"I thought Trump was a visionary with a no-nonsense attitude and the charisma to attract all kinds of voters," he writes. But the real reason he wanted Trump in the White House, Cohen concedes, "was because I wanted the power that he would bring to me."

Cohen expresses little to no remorse for his federal crimes, saying he was "railroaded" by the government and pleaded guilty after prosecutors threatened to indict his wife.

Portland killing suspect and victim had guns, documents say

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP)—Both the suspect in the slaying of the right-wing protester in Portland, Oregon last weekend and the victim had handguns when their confrontation started after dueling street demonstrations, according to court documents made public Friday.

The documents said victim Aaron "Jay" Danielson, a supporter of a right-wing group called Patriot Prayer, was wearing a loaded Glock pistol in a holster and had bear spray and an expandable metal baton when someone said something like "wanna go," which is frequently a challenge to a fight.

Authorities have said they believe antifa supporter Michael Forest Reinoehl, who was fatally shot by federal agents late Thursday in Washington state, then opened fire and killed Danielson after he took part in a caravan of President Donald Trump supporters who drove pickup trucks through downtown Portland.

Some of the Trump supporters fired paint ball pellets at counter-demonstrators, while Black Lives Matter protesters tried to block the vehicles.

Law enforcement officials released the information they had compiled — justifying an arrest warrant for Reinoehl on a second-degree murder charge in the Aug. 29 killing — one day after Reinoehl's killing shook a quiet suburb of Olympia, Washington.

Bystanders Thursday night ducked for cover behind automobiles from dozens of gunshots as four agents serving on a U.S. Marshals Service task force opened fire at Reinoehl.

Authorities said Reinoehl, 48, was armed with a semi-automatic handgun. A witness who was driving to the small apartment complex that Reinoehl was leaving said she saw him open fire from a car and that the officers returned fire.

Reinoehl then got out of the car and started running away but collapsed amid more gunfire, the witness, Deshirlynn Chatman, told The Olympian newspaper.

"He did open fire first," she said in a video posted by The Olympian. Lt. Ray Brady of the Thurston County Sheriff's Department said investigators have not concluded whether Reinoehl fired any shots.

Another video shot during the immediate aftermath showed Reinoehl lying motionless on the street with law enforcement officers in tactical gear and automatic rifles milling around. After several minutes, one man performed chest compressions on Reinoehl.

"Yeah, I don't think he's going to make it," Jashon Spencer narrated on the video that he posted on Facebook.

Brady said he did not believe the officers involved in the shooting had body cameras or dashboard cameras on their vehicles.

In a videotaped interview broadcast the evening of his death by Vice News, Reinoehl came close to admitting he shot Danielson, a supporter of a right-wing group called Patriot Prayer, on Aug. 29 after a caravan of President Donald Trump backers drove their pickup trucks through downtown Portland.

Reinoehl said he "had no choice" but to do what he did because he thought he and a friend were about to be stabbed.

3 fatal shootings yield no indictments for Florida officers

TALLAHASSEE (AP)—A grand jury in Florida declined to issue indictments against Tallahassee police officers involved in the shooting deaths of three people in separate incidents that helped ignite Black Lives Matter demonstrations in the state's capital city.

Jurors in Leon County concluded that the police officers were justified in using lethal force in the separate shootings of Mychael Johnson, Tony McDade and Wilbon Woodard, the Tallahassee Democrat reported. All three were Black.

A diverse group of demonstrators under the banner of the Tallahassee Community Action Committee took to the streets Saturday afternoon to declare solidarity with the city's African American community — which accounts for more than a third of Tallahassee's 200,000 residents.

Police equipped with shields and battle gear formed lines outside the state Capitol. A helicopter flew overhead.

Video posted on Twitter showed police forcibly taking several demonstrator into custody. The community group tweeted that it was trying to free at least 11 demonstrators who were arrested. By late Saturday afternoon, the dozens of protesters taking part in the march had dispersed.

Shortly after the release of the grand jury's report on Friday, Tallahassee Mayor John Dailey appealed for calm, noting "the pain and trauma that these incidents have caused, especially in our communities of color."

The mayor called for a review of the police department's use of deadly force and said he would seek to include a mental health component to how police respond to incidents.

Earlier this week, Leon County put in place a curfew from 11 p.m. to 5 a.m. because of ongoing civil unrest. County officials cited protests that have sometimes turned violent, including a confrontation last weekend in which a man pulled a gun on protesters.

While the grand jury declined to hand down indictments against the police officers, it expressed concern.

In the March shooting of Mychael Johnson, one officer, Zackri Jones, yelled, "I'm going to kill you," before shooting him in the back of the head during a violent struggle, the Democrat reported.

It also noted that the officer who shot and killed McDade violated police department policy by not activating his body camera.

McDade died after he stabbed and killed a 21 year old, but there were differing accounts about McDade's confrontation with police in late May.

About a week earlier, police shot and killed Woodard, who police say was armed, after a report of an altercation in a restaurant parking lot.

Chief Lawrence Revell said in a statement sent Friday that he hoped the grand jury's findings "can help us begin to heal."

The Florida Police Benevolent Association thanked the jury for its service and for acknowledging that deadly force is sometimes warranted.

World

For Lebanese, recovery too heavy to bear a month after blast

BEIRUT (AP)—A month after Beirut's devastating explosion, Ghassan Toubaji still sits under a gaping hole in his ceiling — he can look up through the dangling plaster, wires and metal struts and the broken brick roof and see a bit of sky.

The 74-year-old survived the Aug. 4 blast with bruises, but his fall from its impact worsened his heart and blood circulation diseases. Between that and Lebanon's crumbled economy, he can't go back to work.

He used the last of the dollars his wife had been hoarding—a precious commodity as the local currency's value evaporates—to fix the windows shattered by the explosion.

Teams of volunteers, a symbol of the help-each-other spirit that's grown up from the failures of Lebanon's corrupt political class, came by his apartment and assessed the damage. They put plastic on the windows and promised glass for free eventually. Four weeks later they hadn't come back.

With a sweet patient smile, he said he appreciated how well meaning the young volunteers were. But he couldn't wait — with humidity reaching 80% some days and the summer sun directed all day into his apartment, he had to do something.

"Our house is hot as hell," he said, sitting in baggy shorts and a tank top as he watched the news in the room with the hole overhead.

Lebanese families are still struggling with rebuilding in the wake of the massive explosion centered at Beirut's port. Many, already unable to make ends meet because of the country's economic meltdown, now can't bear costs of making homes livable. Frustration is high, with the state almost nowhere to be seen and promised international help slow in coming.

With winter and the rainy season only weeks away, aid groups are concerned they may not have time or resources for the mammoth job of repairing and rebuilding.

Around 200,000 housing units, approximately 40,000 buildings, were damaged in the blast, 3,000 of them so severely they are currently uninhabitable, according to U.N. estimates.

The loss of homes is just one of the indignities from the explosion, the result of nearly 3,000 tons of improperly stored and rotting ammonium nitrates igniting at the port. The blast, one of the strongest non-nuclear explosions ever recorded, killed more than 190 and injured thousands.

A month later, Beirut is still a wounded, grieving city struggling with the calamity that abruptly altered so many lives. Tall buildings still face the port with blown-up facades. Hundreds-year old stone buildings have gaping holes and missing balconies. Features of small streets parallel to the port have been totally erased. Residents walk around with patched up eyes, bandaged arms or on crutches.

Social media are still awash with people sharing their stories and videos and recounting their persisting trauma. Pictures of the dead are plastered in neighborhoods. "He is a victim, not a martyr," read one poster, rebuffing authorities' attempts to give the dead that esteemed label of self-sacrifice for a cause, seen as a way to water down their own responsibility.

The United Nations appealed for $344.5 million in emergency funds to last until November, and a donor conference was co-hosted by France and the U.N. days after the blast. But so far only 16.3% of the funds have been received.

Of the total pledges, $84.5 million is meant for securing and repairing shelter, but only $1.9 million has been dispersed, said Elena Dikomitis, advocacy adviser for Norwegian Refugees Council for Lebanon.

Aid groups worry the funds are not robust enough.

"The cold and rain could start as early as October," she said. "For sure, tens of thousands of houses can't be repaired in time. That we know for sure, even with all the ongoing efforts."

The NRC is working in two of the hardest-hit neighborhoods, Karantina and Mar Mikhail. It is targeting 12,400 people for help with shelter and 16,800 for water, sanitation and hygiene interventions before March 2021, she said.

Erdogan raises rhetoric in Greece standoff in Mediterranean

ANKARA, Turkey (AP)—Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan on Saturday warned Greece to enter talks over disputed eastern Mediterranean territorial claims or face the consequences.

"They're either going to understand the language of politics and diplomacy, or in the field with painful experiences," he said at a hospital's opening ceremony in Istanbul.

Ankara is currently facing off against Greece and Cyprus over oil and gas exploration rights in the eastern Mediterranean. All sides have deployed naval and air forces to assert their competing claims in the region.

"They are going to understand that Turkey has the political, economic and military power to tear up the immoral maps and documents imposed," Erdogan added, referring to areas marked by Greece and Cyprus as their economic maritime zones.

He stressed that Turkey was "ready for every eventuality and result."

Meanwhile, Turkish media reported that tanks were being moved towards the Greek border. The Cumhuriyet newspaper said 40 tanks were being transported from the Syrian border to Edirne in northwest Turkey and carried photographs of armored vehicles loaded on trucks.

A military official speaking on condition of anonymity in line with government regulations said the deployment was a regular movement of forces and unconnected to tension with Greece.

The president's comments come after NATO said military officers from Greece and Turkey had begun technical discussions to reduce the risk of armed conflict or accidents.

The two NATO allies have been locked for weeks in a tense standoff in the eastern Mediterranean, where Turkey is prospecting the seabed for energy reserves in an area Greece claims as its own continental shelf.

Ankara says it has every right to prospect there and accuses Athens of trying to grab an unfair share of maritime resources.

Simulated dogfights between Greek and Turkish fighter pilots have multiplied over the Aegean Sea and the eastern Mediterranean. A Turkish and a Greek frigate collided last month, reportedly causing minor damage to the Turkish frigate but no injuries.

Erdogan said Turkey had repeatedly expressed its willingness to come to a just agreement.

"Our word is sincere," he said. "The problem is those before us disregard our rights and try to situate themselves above us."

Turkey faces a wide range of opponents in the eastern Mediterranean. France, Italy and the United Arab Emirates have all sent forces to join war games with either Greece or Cyprus in recent weeks. Egypt has signed an energy exploration deal with Athens for the Mediterranean.

The European Union, which counts Greece and Cyprus as members, has also threatened possible sanctions against Ankara over its "illegal" actions.

This week, the U.S. announced it was easing a 33-year-old arms embargo against ethnically divided Cyprus.

The island split in 1974 when Turkey invaded following a coup by supporters of union with Greece. Turkey is the only nation to recognize a Turkish Cypriot declaration of independence and it maintains more than 35,000 troops in northern Cyprus.

Typhoon Haishen approaches Japan packing powerful winds

TOKYO (AP) —A powerful typhoon, the second in a week, was barreling toward the Okinawa islands in southern Japan on Saturday, prompting warnings about torrential rainfall and fierce wind gusts.

Weather officials have cautioned about Typhoon Haishen for the last several days, urging people to brace for what could be a record storm and be ready to take shelter and stock up on food and water.

The Japan Meteorological Agency said Haishen, packing sustained winds of up to 180 kilometers (112 miles) per hour early Saturday, was on course to hit Okinawa by Sunday, and later the main southern island of Kyushu.

But the pouring rain, high tides and winds will hit before the typhoon, the agency said.

Okinawa is home to more than half of the roughly 50,000 U.S. troops based in Japan under a bilateral treaty.

Haishen, or "sea god" in Chinese, was moving northward at 15 kph (9 mph) from out at sea, south of Minami Daito, an island to the south of Japan. The projected course has Haishen hitting the Korean Peninsula on Tuesday.

Meteorological agency official Yoshihisa Nakamoto said he was concerned about people staying home instead of fleeing because of fears about the coronavirus.

"You should not avoid getting out because of such fears," he told reporters, stressing that local communities will have social distancing measures in place at evacuation locales.

Earlier in the week, Typhoon Maysak battered southern Japan, injuring dozens of people and cutting power to thousands of homes. A cargo ship carrying 43 crew members and 5,800 cows from New Zealand capsized off the coast of Japan. Two people, both Filipino, were rescued Friday and one body was recovered. Rescuers also spotted dozens of cow carcasses floating in the area.

The search has been temporarily halted because of Typhoon Haishen, according to the Philippine government. The two rescued Filipinos have spoken with their families, the Department of Foreign Affairs said in a statement.

DEATH ANNOUNCEMENT

Vener Ollesca Urena

"The gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord"
Romans 6:23

We, the Family of the late †Vener Ollesca Urena would like to inform our relatives and friends that our beloved husband, father and brother was called to his eternal rest on August 13, 2020.

Memorial service will be on September 8, 2020 at the Borja Funeral Home – Divine Mercy Chapel from 9:30am – 10:30am followed by his burial at his final resting place at the Tanapag Public Cemetery.

Thank you for your thoughts and prayers
The Family

Health & Wellness

This advertorial is sponsored by Tan Holdings HEALTH IS WEALTH Tan Siu Lin Foundation

Love of travel in the time of coronavirus:

WHY I KEPT GOING

By Scott Laird
TRAVELPULSE
(TNS)

I get the same question from my mother whenever I tell her I’m traveling that weekend (which is often). She herself is by no means a shut-in, having cruised the Nile on a barge and hiked ancient footpaths in the Andes, but the sheer frequency of my travel is what unnerves her.

Some travelers are exhausted by travel, and need time in between trips to recover, while others are energized by it. Me? I’m an introvert and like my “alone” time, but when it comes to travel my appetite has few boundaries.

So in the midst of (quite legitimate) concerns about coronavirus, I took a weekend trip to Puerto Vallarta. I spent some time rationalizing: there aren’t many cases in Mexico; the flights and airports aren’t very full; I love fresh Pacific seafood.

Some of my assumptions panned out. The flights weren’t very full, and the atmosphere felt similar to what it did in the fall and winter of 2001: everyone polite and patient in spite of their obviously frayed nerves.

After getting through the rationalization, the next question is one of self-actualization: why? Why do I keep traveling, even when it’s clearly much safer and less stressful to stay home?

I wouldn’t argue the “safe” bit, but less stressful? After a couple of posts about my journey, I stopped scrolling through Facebook to find endless jokes about toilet paper and admonishments to supply hoarders. There are opportunities for stress wherever you are — even when you’re sipping Pacifico in the sand — and I wasn’t about to let them creep in.

Sometimes I feel like my urge to keep traveling has a documentary quality. There’s something romantic about the correspondents who rushed into the fires to chronicle them, like Ernest Hemingway commandeering a military Jeep to be the first American civilian into Paris in 1944 to “liberate” the bar at The Ritz Hotel. In Mexico, among tourists from the north, it’s as though everyone is taking pains not to discuss the elephant in the room, and that’s the snapshot I’m after.

For me, the desire to see the world isn’t one of postcard idealism. I want to see what the world looks like when it’s not perfect, too. There was a strange beauty in how we traveled just after 9/11. The additional security checks were frustrating, but travelers saw their value. The uncertainty among travel industry workers about their futures put their more authentic humanity on full display; travelers saw that and responded with understanding.

It’s also interesting how humans have the capacity to think of whatever hurdles stand up during their present as extraordinary. Suddenly COVID-19 facemasks are different from SARS facemasks. Post-9/11 security checks were different from Gulf War security checks. A generation from now, travelers of this period will bear witness when the next generation looks upon their struggle as unprecedented.

The word “Quarantine” itself dates back to the middle ages when the city-state of Ragusa (modern-day Dubrovnik) imposed a 40-day (Italian: quaranta giorni = 40 days) waiting period on arriving ships to ensure their occupants didn’t carry the plague. What strikes me is that even during the Black Death, which wiped out roughly a third of Europe’s population, there were still ships arriving to quarantine.

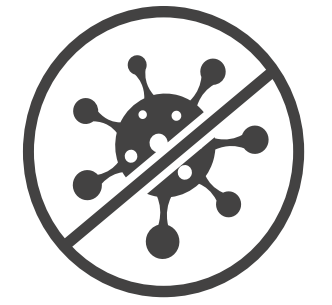
Even in those days, when there was little relief for an ailment of any kind (contemporary prescriptions overwhelmingly did more harm than good) and everything from a sore leg to a sniffle was potentially fatal, there was still a basic understanding that isolation could put a stop to a pandemic. Even then, they traveled on.

Every generation has its intrepid travelers, and as with most adventures, everyone has their endurance limits. Several of my friends were also traveling at the same time. One returned early from Europe, awakening to news of new travel restrictions to the U.S. One had an abbreviated trip to New Zealand after the country announced entry restrictions and airlines began to cancel flights.

I myself am also about ready to pack it in for a while. The calculus has shifted. Concerns of catching and subsequently transmitting the virus have morphed into acceptance of the eventuality that free movement will be curtailed as borders close in efforts to contain the threat.

I’ve seen the warts-and-all realities I was curious about, and it’s time to retire to the couch (yes, Mom, I do stay home sometimes) with a stack of treasured books and films about travel. Instead of the rush I get at the ink of a customs stamp hitting my passport I’ll be transfixed as Bergman is coaxed onto the silver Air France propliner in Casablanca, or Streep, anxious that her crystal and china aren’t broken on the train across Kenya.

And when the next crisis hits, I’ll probably travel right up until the gates swing shut then, too.



5 steps to wash the right way

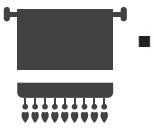
By following some basic steps on the proper way to wash your hands, you can help reduce your risk and do your part to protect others, if your community is affected by the coronavirus.

- Wet your hands with clean running water (warm or cold), turn off the tap, and apply soap.

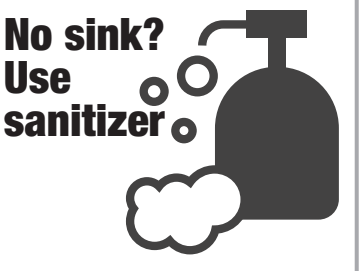
- Lather your hands by rubbing them together with the soap. Lather the backs of your hands, between your fingers and under your nails.

- Scrub your hands for at least 20 seconds. Need a timer? Hum the “Happy Birthday” song from beginning to end twice.

- Rinse your hands well under clean running water.



- Dry your hands using a clean towel or air dry them.



Washing hands with soap and water is the best way to get rid of germs in most situations. If soap and water are not readily available, you can use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.

Source: CDC Graphic: Staff, TNS

Life & Style

‘The Batman’ shoot suspended after positive COVID-19 test

A person working on “The Batman” production has tested positive for COVID-19 and the U.K shoot has been temporarily suspended.

A spokesperson for Warner Bros. said Thursday that the individual is currently isolating in accordance with established protocols.

Robert Pattinson is starring as the caped crusader in the new film from director Matt Reeves which had resumed filming a few days ago after an almost six-month hiatus because of the coronavirus pandemic. It was one of the first major productions to resume in the U.K. with enhanced safety and distancing measures in place.

Hollywood has been slowly and cautiously getting back to work around the world in the COVID-era. “Jurassic World: Dominion” is another major Hollywood production that started up again recently in the U.K., at Pinewood Studios outside of London. And other blockbusters have been filming around the world including Disney’s “Avatar” in New Zealand. Each country has its own set of safety protocols and guidelines.

Regardless of how eager people are to get back on set, uncertainty looms over the safety of it, liabilities and public relations headaches should anyone get sick. The New York Times reported in August that a few crewmembers on Universal’s “Jurassic World” had tested positive, had quarantined and no one became seriously ill.

“The Batman” had had a brush with coronavirus in March as well. Andrew Jack, a famed dialect coach and actor who had been working on the movie before lockdown, contracted coronavirus and died. Reeves at the time tweeted that they were “heartbroken.”

“The Batman” was originally supposed to hit theaters in June 2021 but was pushed back to October because of the delays. The cast includes Zoë Kravitz, Colin Farrell, Jeffrey Wright, Andy Serkis and Paul Dano. ***(AP)***

Slow music: Chord change in Germany of 639-year organ piece

HALBERSTADT, Germany (AP)—Hundreds of fans attended a special kind of musical happening Saturday at a church in Germany: a chord change in an organ piece that is supposed to last for an entirety of 639 years.

The performance of the “ORGAN/ASLSP,” or As Slow As Possible, composition began in September 2001 at the St. Burchardi Church in the eastern town of Halberstadt and is supposed to end in 2640—if all goes well.

The music piece by the American composer John Cage is played on a special organ inside the medieval church. The last sound has been the same one for the last six years and 11 months, and therefore the chord change Saturday was a big event among fans of the John Cage Organ Project.

A chord change means that the sound of the organ pipes changes either because new sounds are added or existing sounds end. On Saturday, two new organ pipes were added.

Organizers say the performance is “one of the slowest realizations of an organ musical piece.”

A compressor in the basement creates energy to blow air into the organ to create a continuous sound. When a chord change happens, it’s done manually. On Saturday, soprano singer Johanna Vargas and organist Julian Lembke changed the chord.

The new sound reminded some listeners of the metallic buzz inside a big ships’s engine room.

The next chord change is planned for Feb. 5, 2022, the German news agency dpa reported.

When the piece officially started on Sept. 5, 2001, it began without any sound. It was only on Feb. 5, 2003, the day of the first chord change, that the first organ pipe chords could actually be heard inside the church.

Cage was born in Los Angeles in 1912 and died in New York in 1992. He’s known not only as a composer, but also as a music theorist, artist and philosopher.

After a long slumber, U.S. cinemas awaken on pivotal weekend

STAMFORD, Conn. (AP)—With the previews about to start, a trickle of masked moviegoers made their way into one of the first U.S. screenings of “Tenet” at the Bow Tie Majestic 6 in downtown Stamford, Connecticut. They took their seats Tuesday night, eyeing the empty seats between each other and a little giddy at being back at the movies for the first time in many months.

Philip Scarante and Andy Flores, both 25, went every Tuesday religiously before theaters closed in March. “It’s just our thing,” Scarante said. Seeing Nolan’s latest mind-bending spectacle later on a smaller screen held no appeal. They sat down in center seats, up close.

“Everyone seems to have a mask on,” Scarante noted, looking around in the sparsely populated theater. “I didn’t expect that many people to show up.”

More Americans will make their way back to the movies this weekend than any since the pandemic shuttered theaters in March. After a few weeks of catalog films and minor releases, the $200 million “Tenet” is the first must-see main event of the pandemic, a mega-movie litmus test for how ready U.S. moviegoers are to return to cinemas.

AP

This combination shows Yifei Liu in the title role of “Mulan,” left, and John David Washington in a scene from “Tenet.”

At the same time, another $200 million movie, the Walt Disney Co.’s live-action “Mulan” remake is debuting not in theaters, as it originally intended to back in March, but on the streaming service Disney+. In an innovative, untested release, “Mulan” will be available for $30 only to Disney+ subscribers Friday.

Each movie could chart a new way forward for Hollywood in the COVID-19 era, and potentially beyond. “Tenet,” w hich grossed a hefty $53.6 million in 41 international territories last weekend, could prove that blockbuster moviegoing can be resuscitated with half-capacity theaters and safety protocols -- or that people aren’t ready to sit in the dark with strangers. “Mulan” could open up a new premium on-demand window to the largest film franchises -- or prove that big-time box office (“Mulan” had been projected to make around $750 million in theaters) can’t be replicated in the home.

Labor Day weekend, usually among the sleepiest days of the year in theaters, has turned into a dramatic showdown with maybe the fate of the industry at stake, as two high-priced experiments test the possibilities of a new reality.

“The world we’re in right now, the concept of releasing the film absolutely everywhere for everyone to go and see on the same weekend, clearly that’s absolutely not an option for the foreseeable future,” said Nolan in an interview. “So if that pushes the industry into different ways of thinking and some of them being older distribution models, that hopefully can work.”

Warner Bros. is rolling out “Tenet” where they can. After debuting in Europe, Canada and Korea last weekend, “Tenet” on Thursday lands in the 75% open U.S. theaters, along with cinemas in China on Friday. Some states, like New York, have kept theaters closed, though more are coming online just in time for “Tenet.” New Jersey and some California cinemas are to reopen Friday.

Girlfriend’s online spending increases despite furlough

DEAR ABBY: For the past eight years, my son has been seeing "Tanya" and, according to him, she spends a lot. I'm concerned about it.

Because of the pandemic, Tanya got furloughed from her employer. She lives in an apartment but has all deliveries sent to OUR home address. Since the pandemic, we are receiving many more packages for her every day from online stores. Our son has mentioned to us that she has huge credit card bills. I'm worried if these two get more serious (marriage), it will cause problems in the future.

I'm tempted to say something to Tanya about the sudden increase in deliveries. Or should I keep quiet? We tell our son, but he always has no comment. Some days it's like Christmas Day for packages.

PERPLEXED DAD IN CALIFORNIA

DEAR DAD: Your son and Tanya are adults. If anyone addresses her spending, it should be your son. I don't advise saying anything to Tanya because it's sure to be resented and could possibly cause a rift between you and your son. Talk to him one more time and explain your concern that his girlfriend is showing symptoms of being a spendaholic. But after that, drop it because the problem will be his, not yours, to solve.

DEAR ABBY: I'm a man living in a small town, and I frequent a local cafe for breakfast. The waitress who serves me each morning, "Rita," does a terrific job, and all of my needs are met. In turn, I leave her a generous tip.

Abby, despite exchanging small talk during coffee refills, Rita snubs me when our paths cross outside the diner. She will look directly at me, turn her head and offer no greeting.

I'm not seeking a relationship with her. In the cafe, I always sit alone and enjoy reading my newspaper while I eat my breakfast and drink my coffee. It just bothers me that she won't offer a simple, civil greeting outside the diner. Would I be justified in reducing the amount of the tip because of her behavior?

PUZZLED PATRON IN INDIANA

DEAR PATRON: Have you tried speaking up and saying hello to her? I don't know Rita. She may be unfriendly or prefer to draw a firm line between her professional life and her personal one. You stated that you tip her generously because of the terrific service she gives you. If that's true, I don't think she should be punished for keeping her distance when she's not at the restaurant.

DEAR ABBY: My husband plays a video golf game most of the time while we watch TV together. If I ask him an occasional question or want to show him something, he says I am interrupting him and I need to wait until he takes his golf shot.

It's very frustrating to always be put on hold when we are together. I think communication is more important than a game. I'm tired of always having to wait, so I just say, "Never mind." Any suggestions?

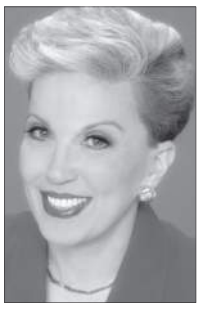
OUT OF THE GAME

DEAR OUT: Just saying "never mind" doesn't get your message across. The next time it happens, TELL your husband how you feel about coming in second place behind his toy, because you don't "interrupt" often and you are more important than his video golf game.

Good advice for everyone – teens to seniors – is in "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It." To order, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $8 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

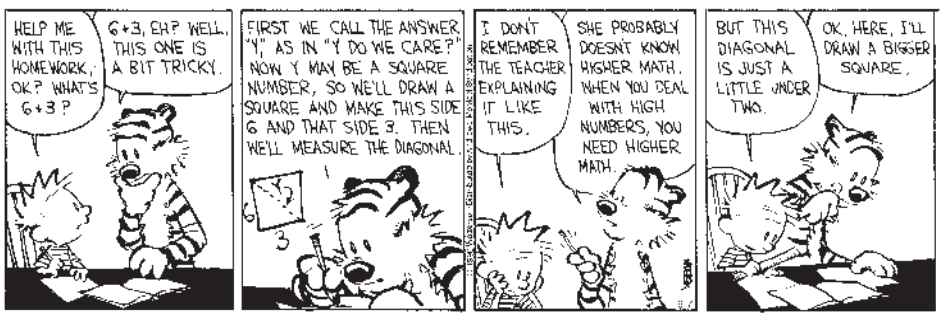


Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Pastimes

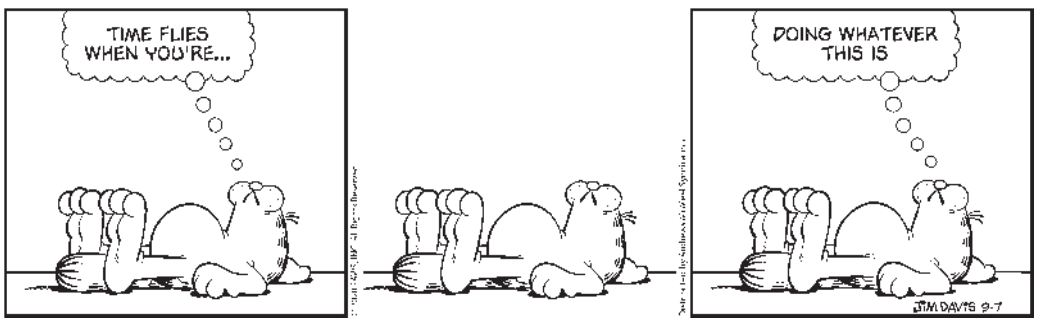
Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson


HELP ME WITH THIS HOMEWORK, OK? WHAT'S 6+3?
6+3, EH? WELL, THIS ONE IS A BIT TRICKY.
FIRST WE CALL THE ANSWER "Y," AS IN "Y DO WE CARE?" NOW Y MAY BE A SQUARE NUMBER, SO WE'LL DRAW A SQUARE AND MAKE THIS SIDE 6 AND THAT SIDE 3. THEN WE'LL MEASURE THE DIAGONAL.
I DON'T REMEMBER THE TEACHER EXPLAINING IT LIKE THIS.
SHE PROBABLY DOESN'T KNOW HIGHER MATH. WHEN YOU DEAL WITH HIGH NUMBERS, YOU NEED HIGHER MATH.
BUT THIS DIAGONAL IS JUST A LITTLE UNDER TWO.
OK, HERE, I'LL DRAW A BIGGER SQUARE.

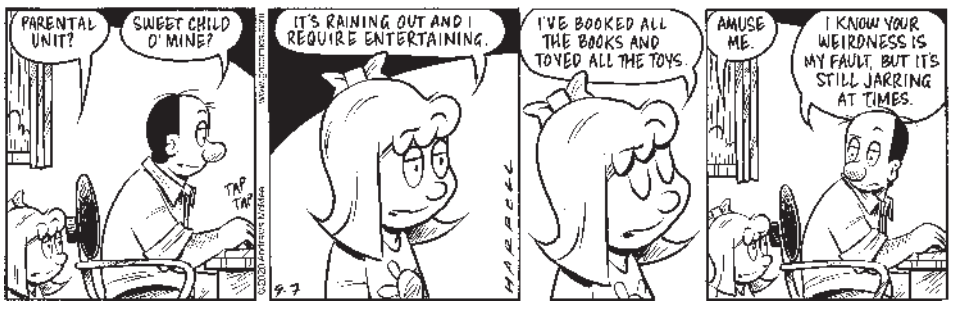
Garfield®

By Jim Davis



Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


PARENTAL UNIT?
SWEET CHILD O' MINE?
TAP TAP
IT'S RAINING OUT AND I REQUIRE ENTERTAINING.
I'VE BOOKED ALL THE BOOKS AND TOYED ALL THE TOYS.
AMUSE ME.
I KNOW YOUR WEIRDNESS IS MY FAULT, BUT IT'S STILL JARRING AT TIMES.

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

HEY-HEY, HO-HO... THIS BATTER HAS GOT TO GO!
NO STRIKEOUT, NO PEACE!
WHAT KIND OF BASEBALL CHANTS ARE THOSE?
SORRY. I WATCH A LOT OF CABLE NEWS.

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

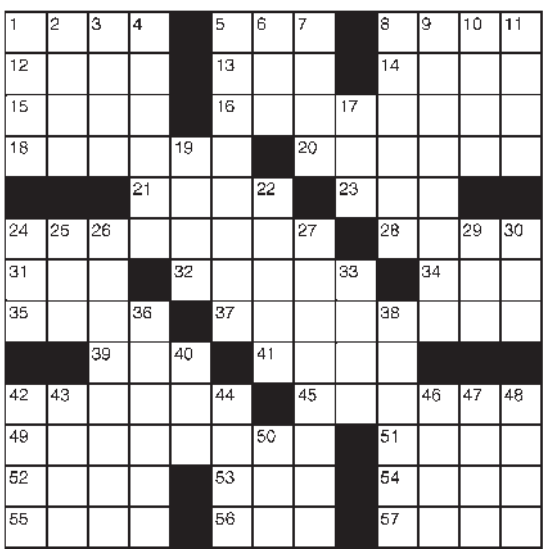
ACROSS
1 Society newbies
5 Haw preceder
8 "— boy!"
12 Jazzy Fitzgerald
13 Mouths (Lat.)
14 Advanced math
15 John and Yoko's son
16 March in place
18 Have a cocktail (or two)
20 Make happy
21 Ripped
23 ISP choice
24 Lincoln's bride
28 End-of-wk. cry
31 Flamenco cheer
32 Book before Joel
34 Mauna —
35 Prejudice
37 Military eating area
39 British "Inc."
41 "Star Wars" princess
42 Each
45 Uncommon thing
49 Bat mitzvah wish
51 Attend
52 Computer brand
53 Chopper
54 Furry sci-fi critter
55 Auction signals
56 — Angeles
57 Carton sealer

DOWN
1 Lucy's partner
2 Grade sch.
3 Spill the beans
4 Rational state
5 Where the school day starts
6 Historic time
7 Lawman Wyatt
8 Swear (to)
9 Three-sided instrument
10 Daly and Allen
11 Pulitzer winner James
17 Carrier to Amsterdam
19 The pair
22 Bygone Ford
24 Unruly group
25 "The Greatest"
26 Comprehended
27 Merits
29 Charged bit
30 Obese
33 Pakistan's continent
36 Takes the helm
38 Walmart competitor
40 Roman 650
42 "Walk Like —"
43 Designer Rabanne
44 Listending abbr.
46 Corn Belt state
47 Sporty car roof
48 Oxen's burden
50 Tic-tac-toe loser

Solution time: 26 mins.

P	O	I	■	S	T	A	R	■	B	I	A	S
U	R	N	■	E	A	S	E	■	R	O	M	E
R	E	D	A	C	T	E	D	■	O	N	Y	X
E	L	Y	S	E	E	■	E	G	O	■	■	■
■	■	■	F	D	R	■	Y	U	M	Y	U	M
T	A	H	O	E	■	M	E	T	■	O	R	O
H	E	A	R	■	R	A	D	■	S	W	A	M
U	R	L	■	L	E	I	■	C	U	L	L	S
D	O	T	T	E	D	■	N	O	S	■	■	■
■	■	■	B	O	A	■	A	D	H	E	R	E
J	J	N	O	■	P	E	D	W	I	N	E	S
I	T	O	N	■	M	V	I	I	■	I	M	P
M	E	T	E	■	Y	A	R	N	■	D	O	N

Last Friday's Answer 09/07



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Evan Rachel Wood, 33; Shannon Elizabeth, 47; Toby Jones, 54; Michael Emerson, 66.

Happy Birthday: Set the stage for new beginnings. Learn from the past, and put an end to situations that hold you back. Concentrate on gaining stability, happiness and the peace of mind you deserve. Refuse to let anger take over or indulgent behavior stifle your ability to be productive. Be receptive to unique solutions that will help you forge into new territory. Your numbers are 6,10, 17, 26, 28, 35, 43.

ARIES *(March 21-April 19):* Stay on course. Follow directions, and get along with others. Let your charm lead the way and your knowledge and desire to help be your calling cards. Talk is cheap if you don't follow through and make things happen. ✪✪✪

TAURUS *(April 20-May 20):* Put everything in place before you make a move. Use unexpected situations to your advantage, and find a way to incorporate what you encounter into your plans. A chance to get ahead looks promising. Apply for or request what you want. ✪✪✪

GEMINI *(May 21-June 20):* Set a plan in motion that will help lower debt. Aim to reduce stress by doing what's right and best for you. Refuse to let anyone talk you into something you don't need. Keep your money matters to yourself. ✪✪✪

CANCER *(June 21-July 22):* Take control of your life. If you wait for someone to make the first move, you'll become angry and resentful. Don't let someone from your past trick you into thinking he or she has changed. ✪✪✪✪

LEO *(July 23-Aug. 22):* Make a change because it's the right thing to do, not because someone pressures you. Take responsibility for your actions and for the way you treat others. Get your facts straight before passing information along. Choose a healthy lifestyle. ✪✪

VIRGO *(Aug. 23-Sept. 22):* Pick up information that will help you gain ground personally and professionally. Knowledge is power, regardless of what stage of life you are juggling. Understanding what's going on around you and how you can make things better are the keys to happiness. ✪✪✪✪✪

LIBRA *(Sept. 23-Oct. 22):* Speak up if you don't like what you see. Use your power of persuasion to convince others to do what's right. You can make a difference if you offer suggestions and solutions that provide incentives to do what's best for everyone. 3✪✪✪

SCORPIO *(Oct. 23-Nov. 21):* You've got the right idea, and you can bring about positive change, but you also have to be careful not to ignore signs that might be harmful to your health. Don't argue with someone who is immovable. Put your energy where it counts. ✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS *(Nov. 22-Dec. 21):* Take your health seriously. Someone you least expect will lead you astray. Verify information before you pass it along. Be responsible for your actions and careful how you handle others. Make peace, love and your physical well-being priorities. ✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN *(Dec. 22-Jan. 19):* The best way to bring about positive changes at home is to dig in and do the work. Share ideas and plans with someone you love, and you'll get the backup you need to get things done fast and efficiently. Avoid arguments. ✪✪✪✪✪

AQUARIUS *(Jan. 20-Feb. 18):* Think twice before you get into an emotional situation with someone who doesn't share your beliefs or values. Spend more time working on personal gains and growth. Use your intelligence when it comes to money, contracts and health. ✪✪

PISCES *(Feb. 19-March 20):* Consider alternative ways to make more money. Information that can lead to a better position will lead to an offer if you reconnect with a colleague. Don't take chances when it comes to your health. Follow the suggestions made by medical workers. ✪✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are curious, open-minded and diligent. You are charismatic and loyal.

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SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

	3		4			5		
7	1				2	8		
			7				6	3
4		2		6			5	
			9	4	5			
	8			2		9		4
2	4				3			
		7	8				2	5
		8			6		1	

Difficulty Level ★ 9/07

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Last Friday's Answer

4	2	8	7	9	6	3	1	5
9	6	5	1	3	2	4	7	8
1	3	7	5	4	8	6	9	2
6	9	2	8	1	5	7	3	4
7	1	3	6	2	4	5	8	9
8	5	4	3	7	9	1	2	6
5	8	1	2	6	7	9	4	3
3	4	6	9	8	1	2	5	7
2	7	9	4	5	3	8	6	1

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 9/07

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

ENJOYING SOME BASEBALL AGAIN Solution: 7 letters

L	L	S	S	H	C	P	L	A	Y	O	F	F	S	A
D	A	I	I	E	C	N	U	O	B	T	D	O	M	T
S	N	N	T	N	V	A	T	C	A	N	E	T	U	F
C	O	O	O	T	G	A	O	G	O	L	R	O	I	L
O	I	U	M	I	L	L	S	C	B	I	G	R	D	S
R	T	M	V	A	S	E	E	U	P	U	S	U	A	N
E	A	P	L	E	I	S	O	L	D	T	Ⓖ	N	T	I
B	N	I	L	S	N	D	E	L	B	Ⓔ	H	S	S	A
O	R	R	A	G	P	I	R	F	Ⓐ	A	C	S	G	R
A	E	E	B	U	N	O	R	Ⓡ	O	M	T	T	A	T
R	T	U	E	F	W	I	R	S	O	R	I	T	M	H
D	N	N	I	W	I	L	D	T	A	J	P	I	E	I
T	I	E	I	K	O	O	R	I	S	F	A	M	S	R
L	L	E	A	G	U	E	W	A	L	K	E	M	H	D
D	L	E	I	F	T	U	O	E	R	S	T	E	A	L

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Ball, Batter, Bounce, Bunt, Coach, Diamond, Double, Dugout, First, Foul, Games, Gear, Infield, International, League, Lineup, Little, Major, Mitts, Outfield, Pitch, Playoffs, Professional, Rookie, Runs, Safe, Saves, Scoreboard, Second, Single, Sliding, Souvenirs, Sports, Stadium, Steal, Tags, Team, Third, Trains, Triple, Umpire, Walk, Wild, World

Last Friday's Answer: Hawaii

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Nuggets, Raptors tie semis series

FLORIDA (AP)—Jamal Murray scored 27 points, Nikola Jokic had 26 points and 18 rebounds and the Denver Nuggets never trailed on the way to beating the Los Angeles Clippers 110-101 in Game 2 of the Western Conference semifinal series Saturday night.

Gary Harris and Paul Millsap each added 13 points to help Denver knot the series at a game apiece.

Paul George scored 22 points for the Clippers, who got 15 from Ivica Zubac and endured a rare off night offensively from Kawhi Leonard. The two-time NBA Finals MVP had 13 points, 10 rebounds and eight assists, but shot only 4 for 17.

Leonard had scored at least 20 points in 27 of his last 28 playoff games—and had at least 29 in all seven playoff games this season.

The Clippers trailed by 23 and got as close as five in the fourth quarter, but no closer. Murray and Harris made 3-pointers on consecutive possessions down the stretch to help keep the Nuggets on top, and Patrick Beverley getting ejected with a pair of technicals with 1:04 left helped seal matters.

Murray made two free throws for the technicals, Grant added another for a personal that was called and the lead was 11. George dribbled the ball off his knee on the next Clippers' possession and the outcome was academic from there.

Denver set the tone from the outset, starting off on a 14-2 run and eventually going up 44-23 before the first quarter was even complete. Jokic and Murray outscored the Clippers by themselves in the opening 12 minutes, 26-25.

It was 72-56 at the half, the Clippers' third-largest intermission deficit of the season.

The Clippers just couldn't string enough points together at enough key times.

A big stretch came in the third quarter when Leonard got fouled and went to the line with a chance to get the Clippers within 11. He missed both free throws, Murray made a jumper on the next Denver possession, Millsap scored about a minute later and just like that Denver's lead was up to 83-66.

The Clippers' best run eventually came in the fourth, with George going on a personal 7-0 spurt to get the Clippers within 91-86—the smallest lead for the Nuggets since it was 7-2.

Denver immediately responded with the 10-0 run, pushing the lead back out to 15 on a pair of free throws by Jerami Grant with 5:22 left.

Meanwhile, Pascal Siakam had 23 points and 11 rebounds, Kyle Lowry added 22 points and 11 boards and the Toronto Raptors evened the Eastern Conference semifinal at two games apiece, beating the Boston Celtics, 100-93.

Two days after winning Game 3 on OG Anunoby's 3-pointer as time expired, the Raptors didn't need any big shots. Instead they just put together long stretches of stops, shutting down most of Boston's perimeter shooters and Jaylen Brown in particular.

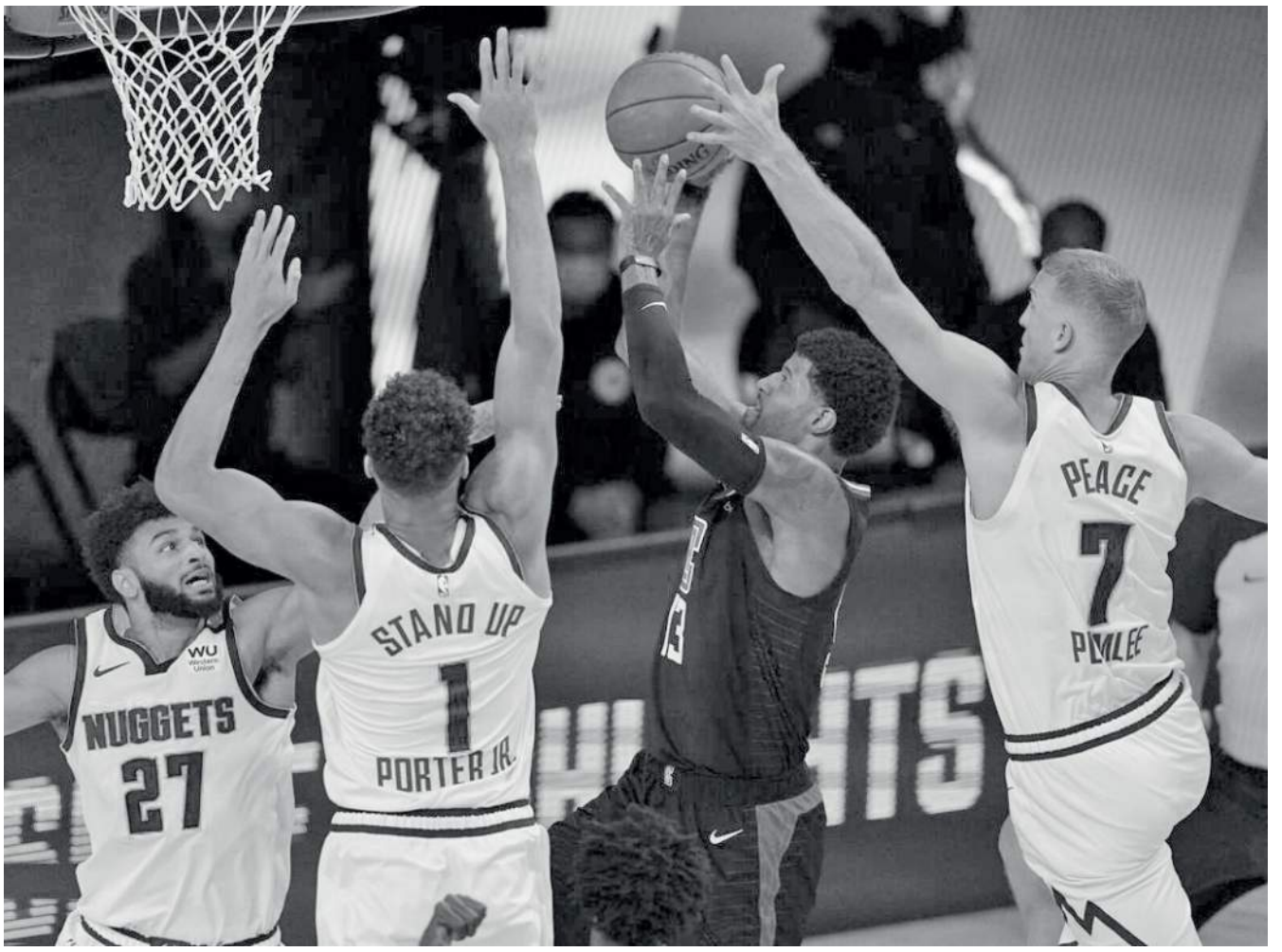
Serge Ibaka had 18 points off the bench on 7-of-9 shooting and Fred VanVleet finished with 17 points, six rebounds and six assists.

Jayson Tatum had 24 points and 10 rebounds for the Celtics. They won their first six postseason games before dropping the last two. Kemba Walker had 15 points and eight assists.

The Celtics were 7 for 35 (20%) from 3-point range. Brown missed his first nine attempts behind the arc and finished 2 for 11, and 4 for 18 overall. Tatum, Walker and Marcus Smart were all 1 for 6 on 3-pointers.

The Raptors got their own shooting untracked late in the third quarter to open the first sizable lead by either team and Boston couldn't hit nearly enough shots to put much of a dent in it.

The Celtics were a half-second from taking a 3-0 lead, from which no NBA team has recovered, after Daniel Theis' basket gave them a two-point lead Thursday. But Anunoby's 3 got the defending NBA champions, who overcame a 2-0 deficit in the Eastern Conference finals, on the way to what they hope will be a similar recovery.



AP

Los Angeles Clippers' Paul George (13) drives to the basket between Denver Nuggets' Jamal Murray (27), Michael Porter Jr. (1) and Mason Plumlee (7) during the first half of an NBA conference semifinal playoff game Saturday, Sept. 5, 2020, in Lake Buena Vista, Fla.

Bucks on brink, Heat look to finish

Teams as good as the Milwaukee Bucks never get swept in the NBA playoffs.

That may change Sunday.

Milwaukee is on the brink of elimination, trailing the Miami Heat 3-0 in their Eastern Conference semifinal series. The Heat can close it out—and make a little history—when they look to finish off a second consecutive sweep in these playoffs.

"The job ain't done yet," Miami's Jimmy Butler said.

The Bucks are the No. 1 seed in the East. They have to be better in Game 4, or else.

They had Game 3 in their hands Friday, leading by 14 in the third quarter and by 12 at the start of the fourth quarter. And then Butler happened: He had 17 points in the fourth, the Heat outscored the Bucks 40-13 in the period and Miami won 115-100 to take the 3-0 lead.

Before Friday, teams down by exactly 12 points going into the fourth quarter of a game this season had lost 39 out of 43 times, or 91%. In the playoffs, teams leading by 12 or more points after three quarters had been 131-1 since April 2016.

But the Bucks couldn't finish and now are in the 0-3 hole, out of which no NBA team has successfully climbed.

"Might as well make history while you're doing it, cap off a great season here," Bucks guard George Hill said. "It's the first time in the history of the NBA we're playing in a bubble. First time that a team can come back down from 3-0. We've got to trust each other, continue to believe. The season's not over."

Messi will stay with Barca despite wanting to leave

SPAIN (AP)—Lionel Messi made it clear that it was time to move on, seek new challenges and be happy somewhere other than Barcelona.

He had won dozens of titles and broken numerous records with the Catalan club but didn't like the direction it was going, so the time had come to try and succeed somewhere else.

But despite being promised that he could leave, he wasn't allowed to. So he is staying for another year to avoid a lengthy legal battle with "the club of his life."

Putting an end to uncertainty about his future, Messi announced Friday that he will continue with Barcelona for the upcoming season despite having wanted to leave.

Messi made the announcement in a video interview published by Goal.com. He said he wanted "to seek a new direction" in his career but didn't want to fight with the club.

He made it clear that he wasn't happy with club president Josep Bartomeu, saying the club official didn't keep his word to let him leave for free at the end of the season.

Messi officially told Barcelona 10 days ago about his decision, but Barcelona said it wanted him to finish his contract that runs until June 2021. It claimed that the clause invoked by Messi to leave had expired on June 10 and said that he had to pay a buyout clause of 700 million euros ($837 million) if he wanted to depart now.

"The president always said that at the end of the season I could decide if I wanted to go or if I wanted to stay and in the end he did not end up keeping his word," Messi said. "The president always told me `when the season is over, you decide if you stay or leave.' But he never set a date."

Messi had told the club about his intention to leave by sending a burofax, a certified document similar to a telegram.

"The burofax was simply to make it official that he was not following the rules, not to get into a fight because I did not want to fight with the club," Messi said.

There had been no agreement when Messi's father and Bartomeu met on Wednesday to discuss the player's future.

"I'll continue at Barcelona and my attitude won't change, no matter how much I have wanted to go," Messi said. "I told the club and the president that I wanted to go. I've been telling him all year. I thought my time in Barcelona was over, sadly—I always wanted to finish my career here."

Messi had not made any public statements since the team's 8-2 loss to Bayern Munich in the quarterfinals of the Champions League on Aug. 14. He said the defeat, one of the worst in his career, was not what made him decide to leave.

"It was a very difficult year, I suffered a lot in training, in games and in the dressing room," Messi said. "I wanted a winning project and to win titles with the club to continue expanding the legend of Barcelona. The truth is that there has been no project or anything for a long time, they juggle and cover holes as things go by."

Trout sets franchise HR mark, Angels top Astros

ANAHEIM, Calif. (AP)— Mike Trout became the Angels' career home run leader and Jo Adell celebrated with a game-winning, two-run single in the seventh, lifting Los Angeles to a 10-9 victory over the Houston Astros in the first game of a doubleheader on Saturday.

The Angels trailed by two going into the seventh. Trout and Shohei Ohtani drew walks before Justin Upton doubled in Trout. One out later, Adell lined a two-run single to right off Enoli Paredes (1-2) for his first game-ending hit.

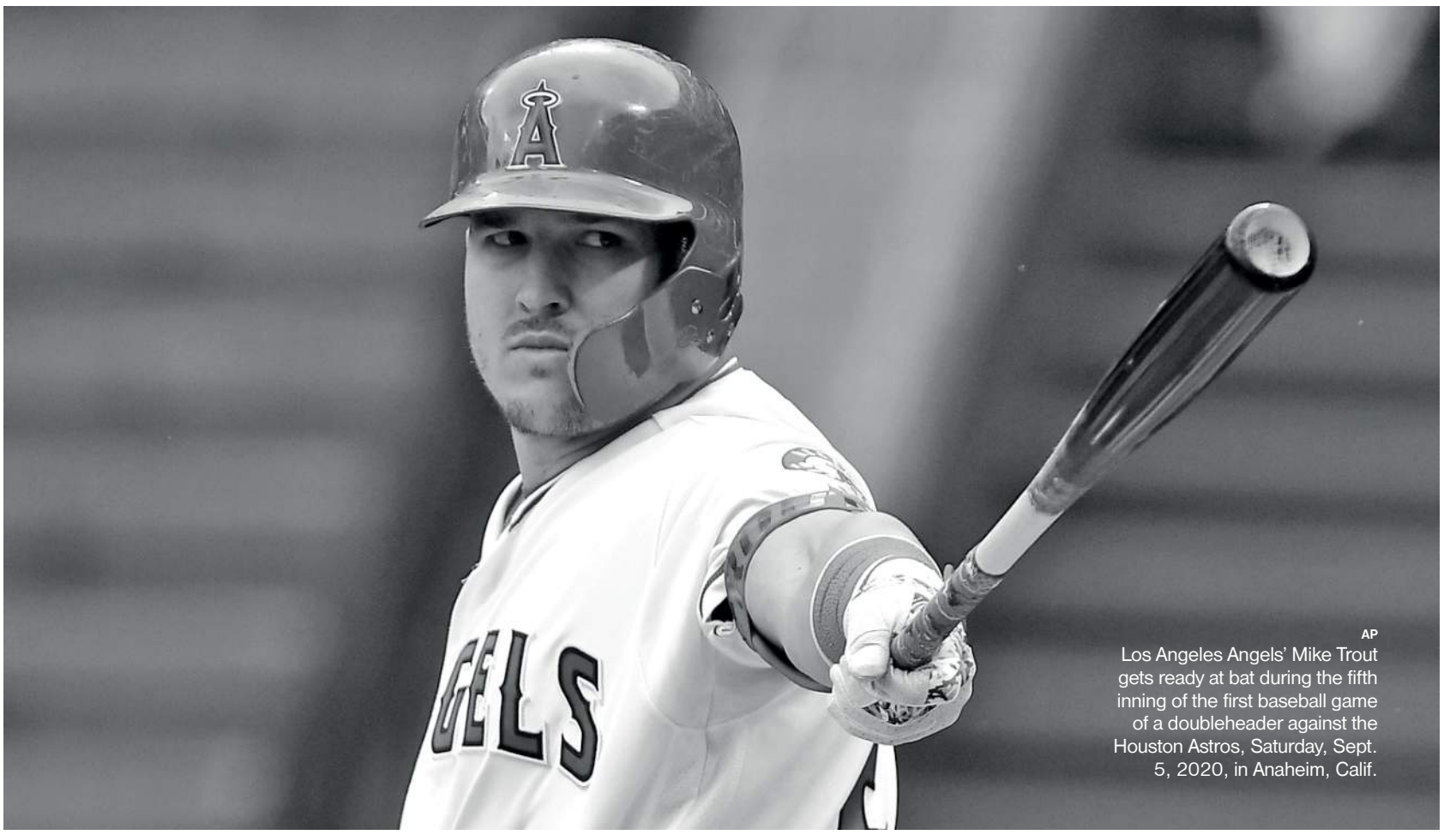
It was Los Angeles' fourth walk-off win of the season, and the first time they have done it in consecutive games since 2005. The Angels won in 11 innings on Friday.

Trout hit career homer No. 300 in the third inning to pass Tim Salmon as the franchise leader. He also had a pair of doubles.

"It means a lot. Once I got within five I started to think about it and when I got No. 299 last night I was definitely thinking about it," Trout said.

Adell's solo shot in the fourth tied it at 4. Upton connected for a two-run drive in the fifth, tying it at 6.

Adell came into the game 2 for 22 on the homestand and hitless in his last 15 at bats, but manager Joe Maddon is hoping the rookie can start to gain some consistency.



AP
Los Angeles Angels' Mike Trout gets ready at bat during the fifth inning of the first baseball game of a doubleheader against the Houston Astros, Saturday, Sept. 5, 2020, in Anaheim, Calif.

Giants 4, Diamondbacks 3

Evan Longoria and Darin Ruf launched back-to-back home runs in the second inning and the Giants spoiled Madison Bumgarner's return to San Francisco with a win over the Arizona Diamondbacks.

Bumgarner (0-4) came off the injured list to make his first start in nearly a month after recovering from a mid-back strain. The left-hander allowed two earned runs on three hits in four innings, striking out two and walking a pair in his first-ever appearance against his former team.

Bumgarner spent his first 11 seasons with the Giants, winning three championships and the 2014 World Series MVP.

Indians 4, Brewers 3

Milwaukee closer Josh Hader allowed his first hit of the season, and then gave up Cesar Hernandez's game-winning single in the ninth inning.

Oscar Mercado, who scored on Hernandez's liner through a five-man infield, led off the ninth with a double, ending Hader's major league-record streak of 12 hitless appearances to start the season.

Orioles 6, Yankees 1

Yankees ace Gerrit Cole had a dominating start go awry during a nightmarish sixth inning against the Orioles, who got a slump-breaking homer from DJ Stewart.

Cole (4-3) lost a third straight start for the first time since July 30-Aug. 10, 2018, with Houston. Prior to this skid, the right-hander had reeled off 20 straight regular-season victories.

Reds 6, Pirates 2

Eugenio Suarez hit three homers in a game for the first time in his career, driving in five runs and powering Cincinnati to the victory.

Suarez hit a three-run shot deep down the left-field line to cap a four-run third inning. He added solo homers in the sixth and eighth innings.

Athletics 8, Padres 4

Ramon Laureano homered to help Sean Manaea win his third straight start, and Oakland snapped a three-game losing streak.

Matt Olson hit a two-run triple and new addition Tommy La Stella had an RBI double for the A's, pounded 7-0 on Friday night as they returned to the field following four postponed games because of Daniel Mengden's positive coronavirus test.

Mets 5, Phillies 1

Seth Lugo got the Mets' rotation its first win in more than three weeks, and Phillies star Bryce Harper screamed in an umpire's face after being ejected for arguing over a foul ball.

In his third start since moving out of the bullpen, Lugo (2-2) pitched five innings of one-run ball and tied a career high with eight strikeouts.

White Sox 5, Royals 3

Jose Abreu hit his 13th homer for Chicago in the first inning, and Yasmani Grandal added a two-run shot.

Abreu, who leads the majors with 40 RBI in 40 games, extended his hitting streak to 19 games.

Cardinals 4, Cubs 2

Adam Wainwright pitched six-hit ball into the seventh inning, leading the Cardinals to the win in the first game of a doubleheader.

Wainwright (4-0) allowed two runs, struck out six and walked one while improving to 4-0 for the first time in his career. The 6-foot-7 right-hander tossed a four-hitter in a 7-2 victory over Cleveland on his 39th birthday in his previous start.

Marlins 7, Rays 3

Sandy Alcantara pitched six effective innings and Corey Dickerson homered, sending Miami to the victory.

The Marlins improved to 15-8 on the road. Miami had lost nine in a row to the Rays.

Twins 4, Tigers 3

Miguel Sano led Minnesota's rally against the Detroit bullpen with a home run and the tying single in the ninth inning, before Byron Buxton beat out an infield single for the game-winning RBI.

Jorge Alcala (2-1) pitched two scoreless innings for the Twins, who have won five straight games.

Chiefs keep Super Bowl team intact on cut-down day

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — The Kansas City Chiefs are content to defend their Super Bowl title largely with the team that won it.

After signing a handful of veteran free agents during an offseason unlike any other, the Chiefs waived the majority of them Saturday as they trimmed down to 53 players for the start of the regular season. Among the notable names were running back DeAndre Washington, who was signed from Oakland, and former Miami safety Adrian Colbert.

Even the veterans could be back, though. The coronavirus pandemic has altered the rules for the practice squad, allowing teams to retain 16 players and up to six with accrued seasons to help deal with the potential of an outbreak.

"We tell them at the beginning, `Listen, not everybody is going to make our football team," Chiefs coach Andy Reid said, "but make it as hard as you possibly can on us to make that decision. And don't count the number in the line. Just go play."

Most of the players waived as the Chiefs trimmed from their 80-man camp roster ahead of their opener Thursday night against Houston were inexpensive fliers and undrafted free agents. That's because they spent the majority of the offseason—and the majority of their salary cap—taking care of the core group that won their first title in 50 years.

The Chiefs gave a 10-year contract extension to quarterback Patrick Mahomes that could ultimately pay him a half-billion dollars, then followed it with long-term deals for Pro Bowl defensive tackle Chris Jones and star tight end Travis Kelce.

The Chiefs waived quarterbacks Matt Moore and Jordan Ta'amu, which means they are content having just Chad Henne backing up Mahomes for Week 1. Running back Elijah McGuire lost out on a backup job to Darrel Williams, another member of the Super Bowl team, while wide receivers Jody Fortson, Maurice Ffrench, Gehrig Dieter, Justice Shelton-Mosley and Kalija Lipscomb were cut loose in favor of keeping special teams ace Marcus Kemp.

Offensive linemen Jackson Barton, Ryan Hunter, Darryl Williams and Greg Senat were released with tight end Dan Helm.

The biggest name let go on defense was Breeland Speaks, the Chiefs' second-round pick in 2018, who missed last season to an injury. Also waived were defensive lineman Tim Ward, Braxton Hoyett and Devaroe Lawrence; linebackers Omari Cobb and Darius Harris; and defensive backs Rodney Clemons, Lavert Hill and Chris Lammons.

Offensive lineman Yasir Durant and defensive lineman Tershawn Wharton made the team as undrafted rookies.

Another offensive lineman, Martinas Rankin, will start the season on the PUP list as he recovers from knee surgery.

Still, the minimal roster turnover means the Chiefs could have an advantage early in the season. Most of the team was already familiar with the playbook before the pandemic scuttled offseason workouts and all four preseason games, which are typically crucial for young and rebuilding teams as they try to polish off their rosters.

"Normally you go through the cuts and if it's a veteran player you release, you meet with him, and the young guys, you give them encouragement to move on," Reid said. "We're going to support the guys. If they've made it this far with us, we're going to support them. If somebody calls us about them, we want them to be successful. If you're with us, you're with us, and if we can't keep you, we want you to make it somewhere else. That's this year or any year."

The Chiefs were able to keep a couple extra players because cornerback Bashaud Breeland, who is suspended for the first four games, and defensive tackle Mike Pennel, who must sit out the first two, don't count against their 53. They also had a trio of players opt out in right guard Laurent Duvernay-Tardif, running back Damien Williams and rookie Lucas Niang.

Now, the frenzy will begin as teams begin to claim players that were waived, even though they may have to rely on game film from college and the scouting combine because there were no preseason games to scout.

Serena avoids early exit, rallies past Stephens

NEW YORK (AP)—In danger of her earliest exit at the U.S. Open since her debut 22 years ago, Serena Williams turned things around and took over against Sloane Stephens.

Williams emerged from the third-round matchup between two Americans who are past champions at Flushing Meadows—she's won six of her 23 Grand Slam singles titles at the place — with a 2-6, 6-2, 6-2 victory over 2017 titlist Stephens on Saturday.

Afterward, Williams' 3-year-old daughter, Olympia, wore a mask and waved at Mom while sitting on her father's lap in a front-row seat. On her way to the locker room, Williams waved back.

"I hope," Williams said, "that she saw her mama fighting."

Williams did it, as she so often does, with her best-in-the-game serve, hitting 12 aces at up to 122 mph as it got really dialed in midway through the second set, and an ability to re-calibrate her groundstrokes that were so awry early and so superb down the stretch.

"She served a lot better," said Stephens, now 1-6 against Williams, although they hadn't played each other since 2015. "Obviously she has one of the greatest serves in the game. It's really difficult to read."

Williams collected 10 of the last 12 games by lifting her level, to be sure. But it helped that Stephens went from playing nearly perfectly to missing more and more. Following mistakes, Stephens would look over at her coach, Kamau Murray, or smack her right thigh with her palm so loudly that it echoed through a nearly empty Arthur Ashe Stadium.

"In that first set, I don't think she made any errors, honestly. She was playing so clean. I said, 'I don't want to lose in straight sets,'" said Williams, whose only career U.S. Open loss before the fourth round came in the third against Irina Spirlea in 1998 at age 16.

Williams, who turns 39 in three weeks, said she told herself Saturday: "OK, Serena, just get a game. Get a game."

There were, of course, no fans—banned because of the coronavirus pandemic—and so the whole thing was flush with the feel of a practice session, rather than a high-stakes contest on a Grand Slam stage.

There were some other players on hand to watch, including 15th-seeded Maria Sakkari, who sipped orange juice and ate lunch while on her player suite's balcony. Sakkari had a vested interest: She faces Williams for a berth in the quarterfinals.

AP

Serena Williams returns a shot to Sloane Stephens during the third round of the US Open tennis championships, Saturday, Sept. 5, 2020, in New York.

Other women into the fourth round: No. 2 Sofia Kenin, No. 16 Elise Mertens, No. 20 Karolina Muchova, Tsvetana Pironkova and Alize Cornet. Pironkova defeated No. 18 Donna Vekic 6-4, 6-1. Cornet led 7-6 (4), 3-2 when No. 7 Madison Keys retired because of a neck injury.

"Unfortunately I felt that something was off with my neck" Friday, Keys said in a statement. "I tried to play through it, but it got progressively worse."

Keys, the runner-up in 2017, said she didn't think her injury was serious.

In men's action, 2019 runner-up Daniil Medvedev and another semifinalist from a year ago, No. 6 Matteo Berrettini moved on, as did No. 2 Dominic Thiem, No. 10 Andrey Rublev, No. 15 Felix Auger-Aliassime, No. 21 Alex de Minaur, American Frances Tiafoe and Vasek Pospisil, who's been in the news lately because he teamed up with Novak Djokovic to set up a new association to represent players.

Pospisil eliminated No. 8 Roberto Bautista Agut 7-5, 2-6, 4-6, 6-3, 6-2, and next faced another five-set winner, de Minaur, who defeated No. 11 Karen Khachanov 6-4, 0-6, 4-6, 6-3, 6-1.

Williams vs. Sakkari is a rematch of their meeting won last month by Sakkari at the Western & Southern Open, a hard-court tournament played at the U.S. Open site instead of its usual home in Ohio because of the pandemic.

"You know, Serena is Serena," Sakkari said after advancing earlier Saturday by beating 19-year-old American Amanda Anisimova 6-3, 6-1. "You have to come up with some great tennis. Otherwise there is no chance against her."

LAKERS

From Page 20

emergency starter with Avery Bradley opting out of the bubble, but he should be more involved not only in defense but on offense as well to relieve pressure on LA's Top 2 stars.

It's frightening to think that the Lakers were blown out in a game where neither James Harden nor Russel Westbrook didn't really go supernova on them. The two Rockets MVPs are capable of going north of 40 points in any given game and outside of former supersub, Eric Gordon's 23 points, no other Houston starter or player off the bench really did damage against the Purple and Gold.

When the smoke of the Game 2 battle clears this morning, I expect the Lakers to tie the series at 1-1. Having been a lifelong Lakers fan, I'm still rooting for LA and that's despite LeBron taking over the marquee at the Staples Center or in the case of the Orlando bubble, the ESPN Wide World of Sports Complex at the Walt Disney World Resort.

And when the Rockets fall against the Lakers in Game 2, three of the four conference semifinals will now be even-steven. After saving their season with an OG Anunoby triple off a perfect pass from Kyle Lowry, the defending champion Toronto Raptors have equalized their series against the Boston Celtics at 2-2 with a masterful victory yesterday, this time with Pascal Siakam finally showing up. Not bad for a team given up as extinct after going down 0-2 against Beantown.

And the Denver Nuggets proved to all and sundry that they're not just happy to have prevailed in their grueling seven-game opening round series against the Utah Jazz by holding off the Paper Clips in Game 2 in the other conference semifinals yesterday. Coach Mike Malone's team blew up my playoff bracket by beating Donovan Mitchell and Rudy Gobert in the first round and looked like zombies in their 23-point beatdown against the "Other LA team" in Game 1.

The remaining conference semifinal game today pits the Miami Heat and the NBA playoffs overall No. 1 seed, the Milwaukee Bucks. I have a lot of things to say about this No. 1 vs. No. 5 matchup, but I plead the fifth as not to jinx my other favorite team (right, Jon Perez?). Jimmy Buckets and company have raced to a 3-0 lead in the series and no other team in professional sports in North America has overcome such odds to advance to the next round. In the Association, the record of teams going down 0-3 and winning the series is 0-139. I'll just leave it at that.

BREL

From Page 20

eran, adding that he got the prized catch in the waters outside west of Saipan, an old diving site called "Disneyland."

Brel, the MASC president, won the entry fee pot ($550), trophy, and the Rob Allen Torpedo buoy donated by the WESTPAC Advisory Panel for ruling the competition.

Also receiving trophies and $200 and $150 were Mii Tekopua and Naoki Oura, who finished second and third, respectively and took home gift certificates from Aquasmith. Tekopua's second place catch measured 116.84 cm, while Oura's find hit 108 cm.

Tekopua, who is into spearfishing, caught four mamulans during the tournament and had his best last Aug. 13. It had a fork length of 91.44 cm and height of 25.4 cm. Oura's third place catch was reeled in on Aug. 11 with a fork length of 80 cm and height of 28 cm.

Naoki Oura lifts his mamulan. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Meanwhile, MASC would like to thank all the participants and sponsors of the first-ever Mamulan Cup. The association hopes to hold the tournament annually and have some twists in the next competition to make it more interesting.

"Perhaps the next one will be the Gamson Master or Lililok Cup? Or the more serious battle to choose our Micro Games 2022 representative? We have loads of fun planned out for the future so we kindly ask for your continued support," MASC said.

The Mamulan Cup was open to all types of fishermen or those who do spearfishing, rod and reel, and traba, and used magic tricks. Boats are also allowed, but their catch must be taken out of the boat before they are measured. They were required to list the fork length and height and post the results and the picture of their catch on the MASC Facebook.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Mii Tekopua shows his catch, including a mamulan, left.

Nuggets, Raptors tie semis series

PAGE 17

Saipan Tribune
Sports

Trout sets franchise HR mark, Angels top Astros

PAGE 18

Brel rules Mamulan Cup

J.R. Brel poses with his winning catch. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

It was a first-try, first-hit case for Marianas Apnea Spearfishing Club Mamulan Cup 2020 winner J.R. Brel.

Brel caught a 59-lb, 137.2-cm mamulan to beat 39 other participants in the inaugural tournament, wherein fishermen were allowed to turn in their catch from Aug. 8 to 31 with the winner determined by the fork length and height of the fish. Brel's winning catch measured 106.7 centimeters in length and 30.5 cm in height.

"I went into the waters only three times during the tournament and got the eventual winning fish in my first attempt, on Aug. 9," said Brel.

The Talafofo resident added he got the mamulan early in the morning and hit the fish with his spearfishing gun on his first try.

"If I wasn't able to kill the fish in my first attempt, it would be very hard to get it. It was really a good first shot for me," said the 15-year vet-

See BREL on Page 19

Lakers will ground the Rockets

MARKSMAN
By MARK RABAGO
Associate Editor

Growing up Mark wanted to play pro basketball. When his talent and height didn't measure up, he opted for a career in journalism instead.

The Los Angeles Lakers must punish the small-ball Rockets down low while defending the trigger-happy Houston players from the Land of Plenty.

I understand coach Frank Vogel is hesitant in starting Anthony Davis at the 5, but watching Javale McGee or Dwight Howard (without a C this time) trying to defend either P.J. Tucker or Robert Covington in the perimeter is just like my wife stopping me from taking seconds and thirds in the buffet line—it's just a losing proposition.

There's no need to panic yet if you're LeBron James and company, though. They also lost Game 1 against the Portland Trail Blazers in the first round. Like The King said, they're still trying to feel themselves in the series. But LA's supporting cast should show more of a backbone to win Game 2 this morning. Like the Beatles were not just about John Lennon and Paul McCartney, the Lakers should stop relying only on LeBron and AD.

Kyle Kuzma should be better than his 8 points, 2 rebounds, and 1 assist in Game 1. Heck, the Bald Mamba, Alex Caruso, fared better than him in that game with 14 points and 4 assists. While Kuz can play the part of George Harrison, Kentavious Caldwell-Pope must be Ringgo Starr in this Hollywood version of the Fab Four. I get it, he's just an

See LAKERS on Page 19

AP
Houston Rockets' P.J. Tucker (17) is fouled by Los Angeles Lakers' LeBron James, left, during the second half of an NBA conference semifinal playoff game Friday, Sept. 4, 2020, in Lake Buena Vista, Fla.